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(12) **United States Patent**
Wronski

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(45) **Date of Patent: Jul. 26, 2016**

(54) **INTERFACING A LIGHT EMITTING DIODE (LED) MODULE TO A HEAT SINK ASSEMBLY, A LIGHT REFLECTOR AND ELECTRICAL CIRCUITS**

(71) Applicant: **Grzegorz Wronski**, Peachtree City, GA (US)

(72) Inventor: **Grzegorz Wronski**, Peachtree City, GA (US)

(73) Assignee: **Cooper Technologies Company**, Houston, TX (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 406 days.

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Related U.S. Application Data

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F21V 7/00	(2006.01)
F21V 15/01	(2006.01)

(Continued)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC . ***F21V 29/26*** (2013.01); ***F21V 7/00*** (2013.01); ***F21V 15/01*** (2013.01); ***F21V 17/005*** (2013.01); ***F21V 17/14*** (2013.01); ***F21V 19/0055*** (2013.01); ***F21V 23/06*** (2013.01); ***F21V 29/004*** (2013.01); ***F21V 29/713*** (2015.01); ***F21V 29/74*** (2015.01); ***F21V 29/773*** (2015.01);

(Continued)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

None

See application file for complete search history.

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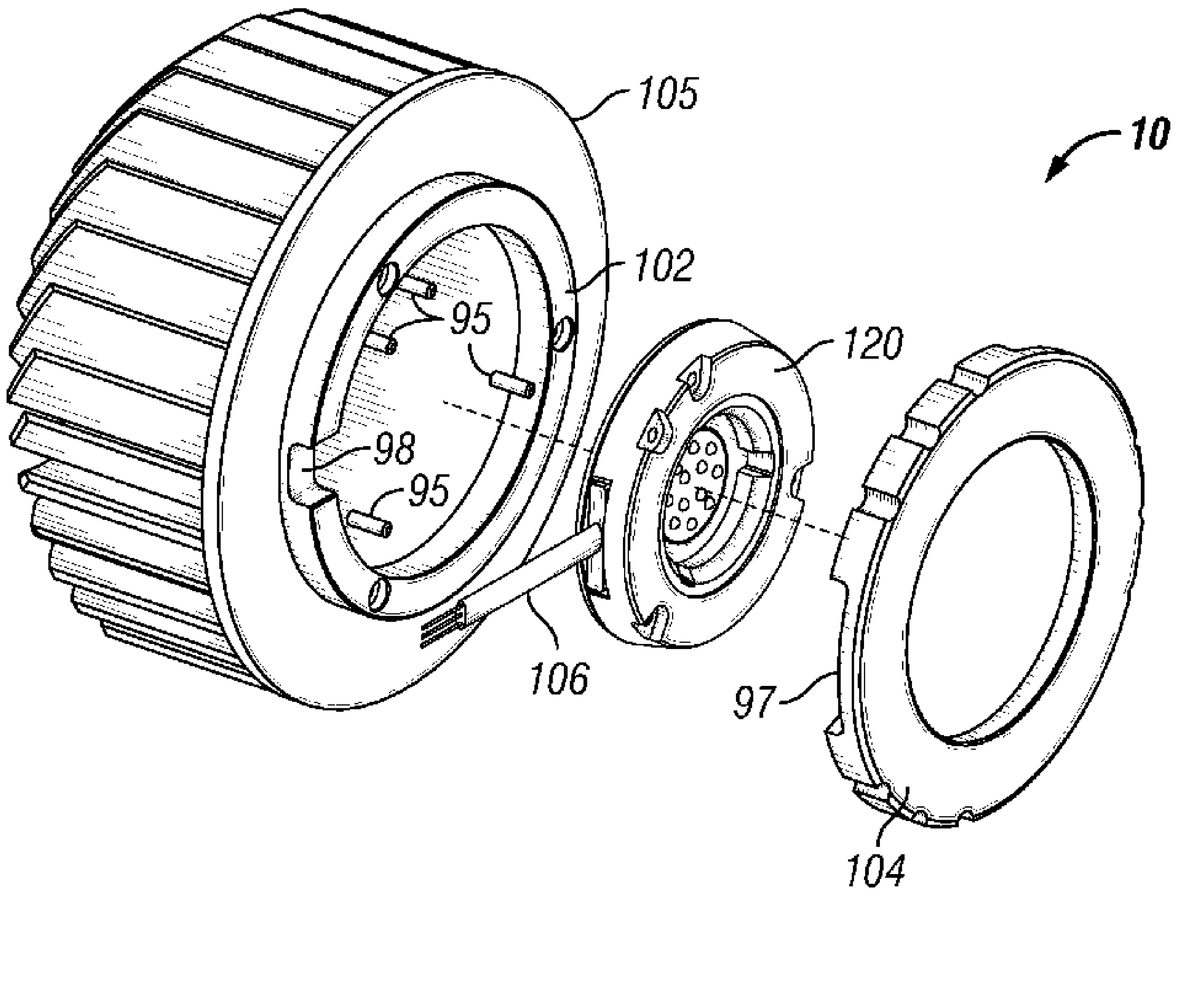
Primary Examiner — Britt D Hanley

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — King & Spalding LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A light emitting diode (LED) module is in thermal communication with front and back heat sinks for dissipation of heat therefrom. The LED module is physically held in place with at least the back heat sink. A mounting ring and locking ring can also be used to hold the LED module in place and in thermal communication with the back heat sink. Key pins and key holes are used to prevent using a high power LED module with a back heat sink having insufficient heat dissipation capabilities required for the high power LED module. The key pins and key holes allow lower heat generating (power) LED modules to be used with higher heat dissipating heat sinks, but higher heat generating (power) LED modules cannot be used with lower heat dissipating heat sinks.

17 Claims, 17 Drawing Sheets



(51) **Int. Cl.**

F21V 17/14	(2006.01)
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F21V 17/00	(2006.01)
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F21V 29/74	(2015.01)
F21V 29/77	(2015.01)
F21Y 101/02	(2006.01)
F21Y 105/00	(2016.01)
F21V 7/22	(2006.01)
F21V 7/06	(2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
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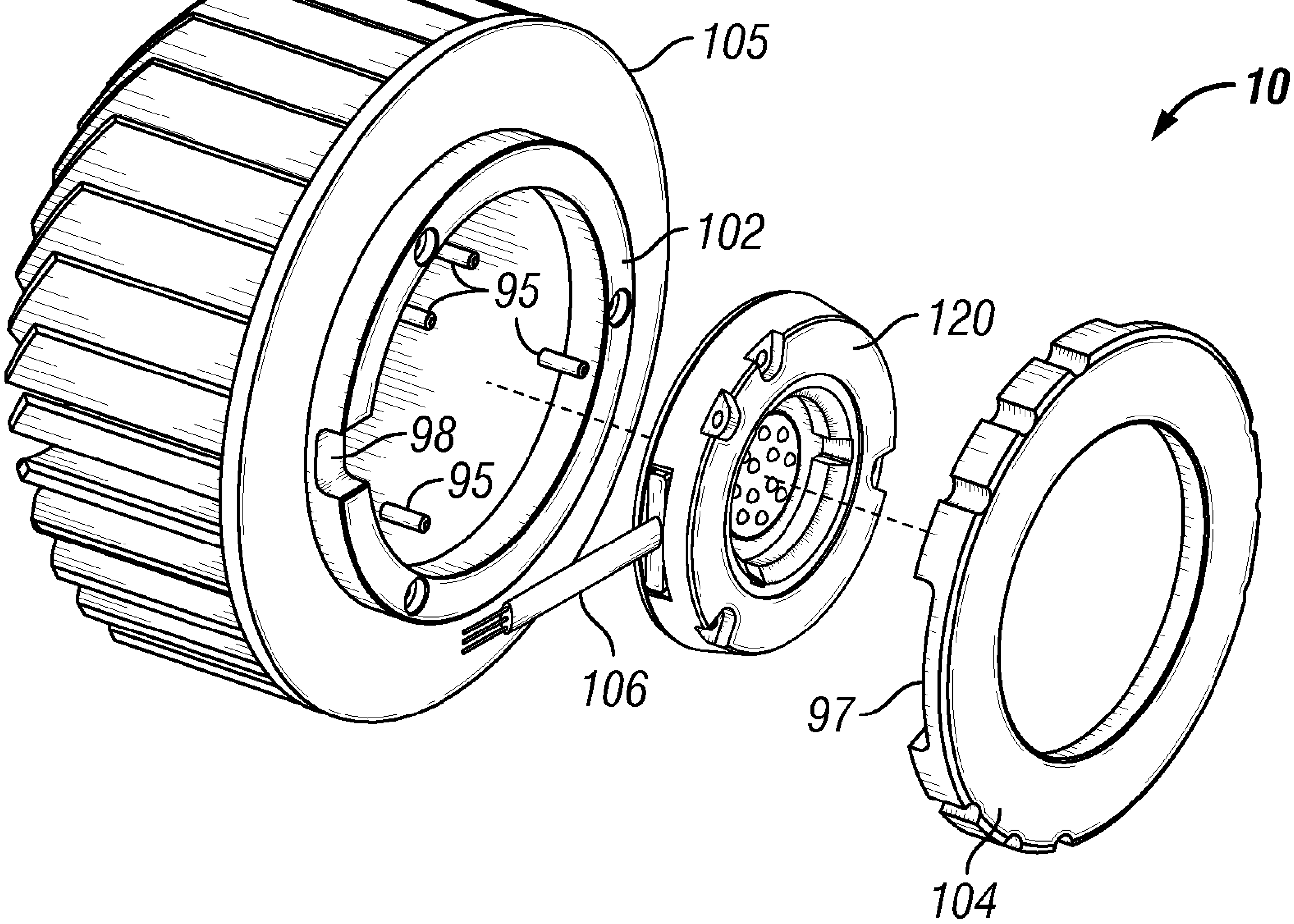


FIG. 1

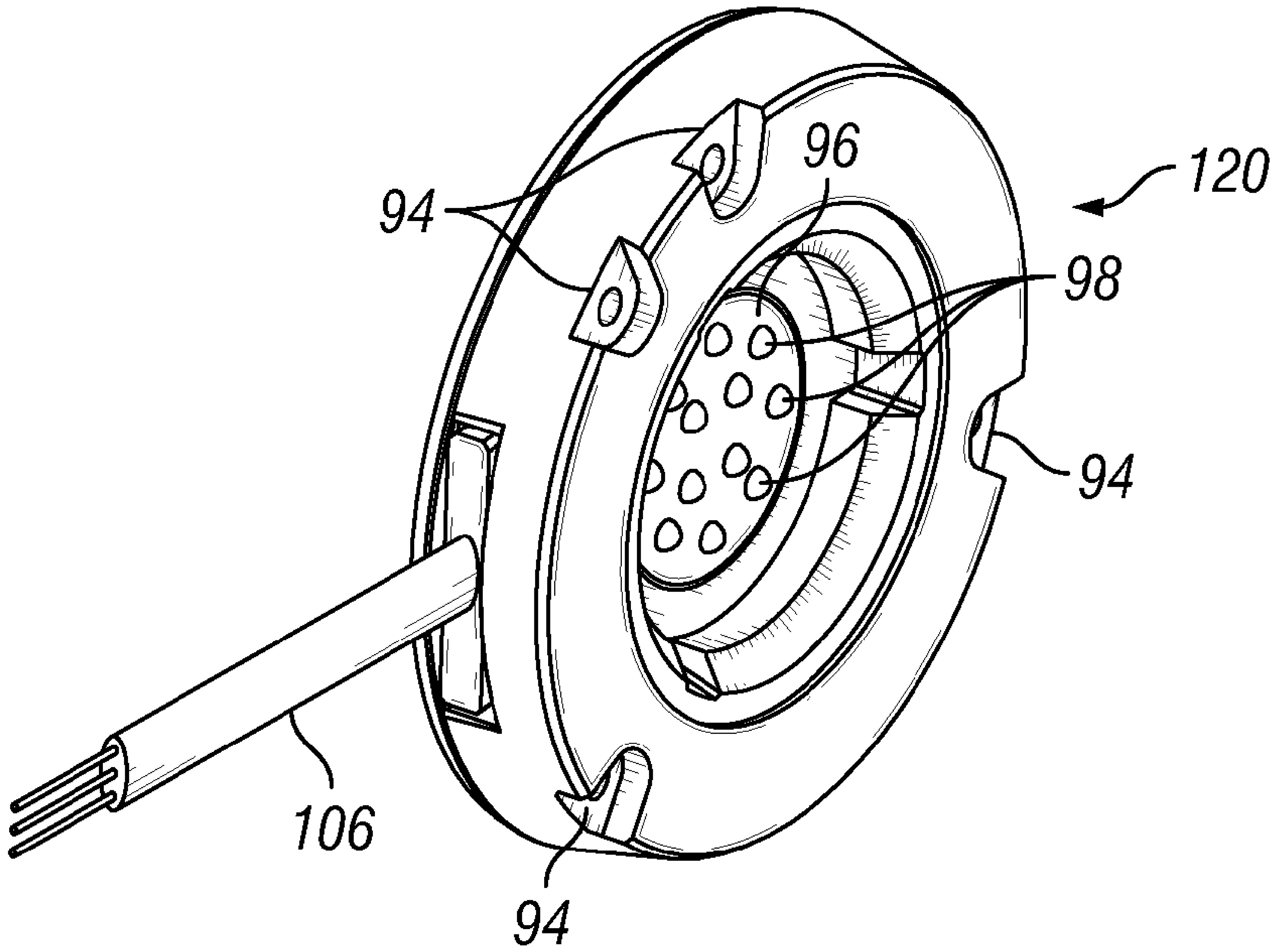
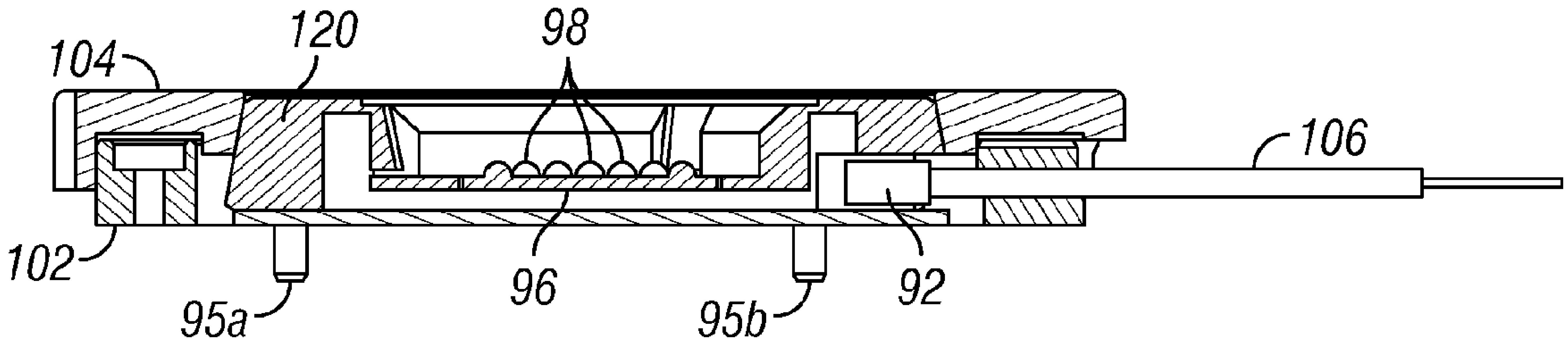


FIG. 2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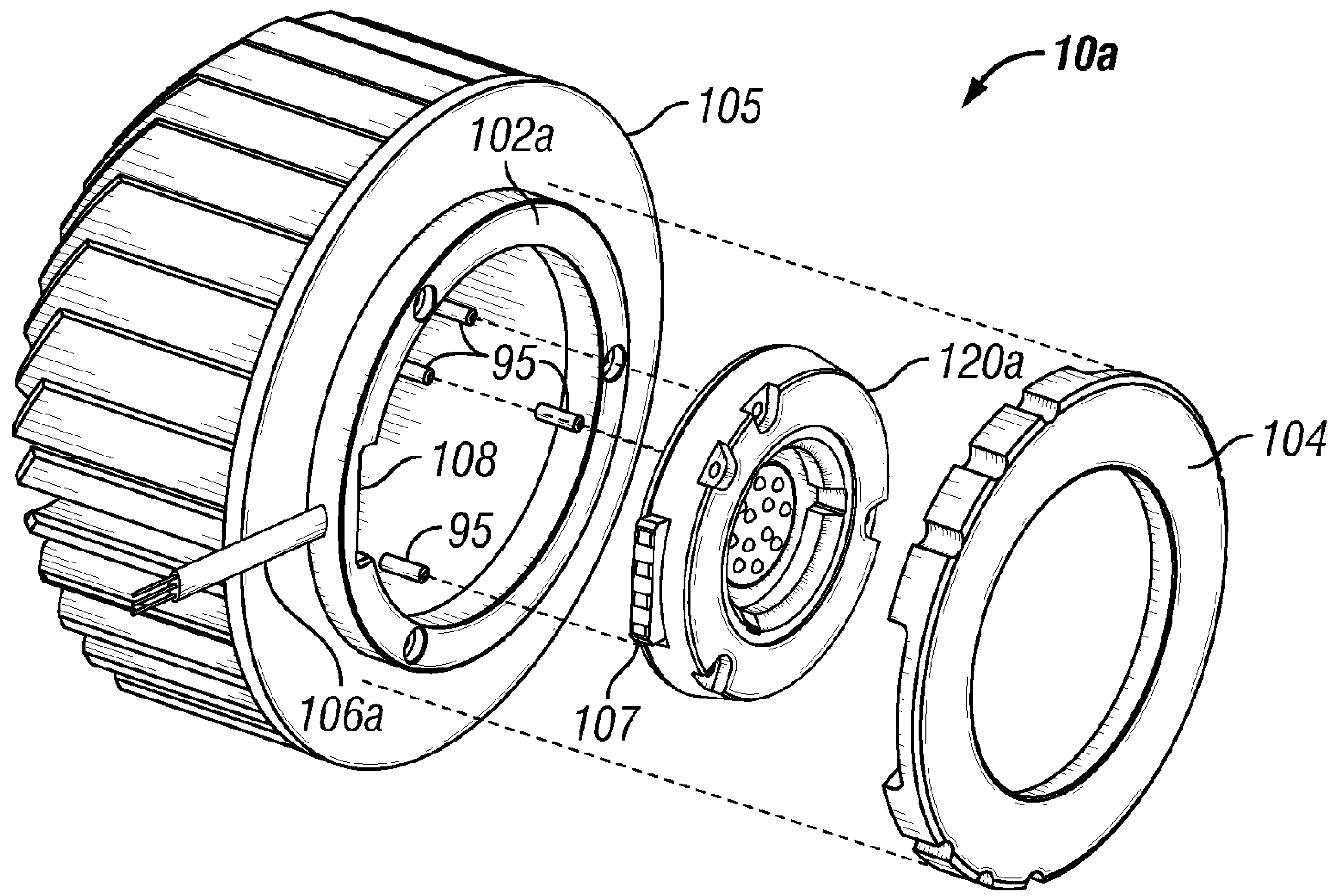
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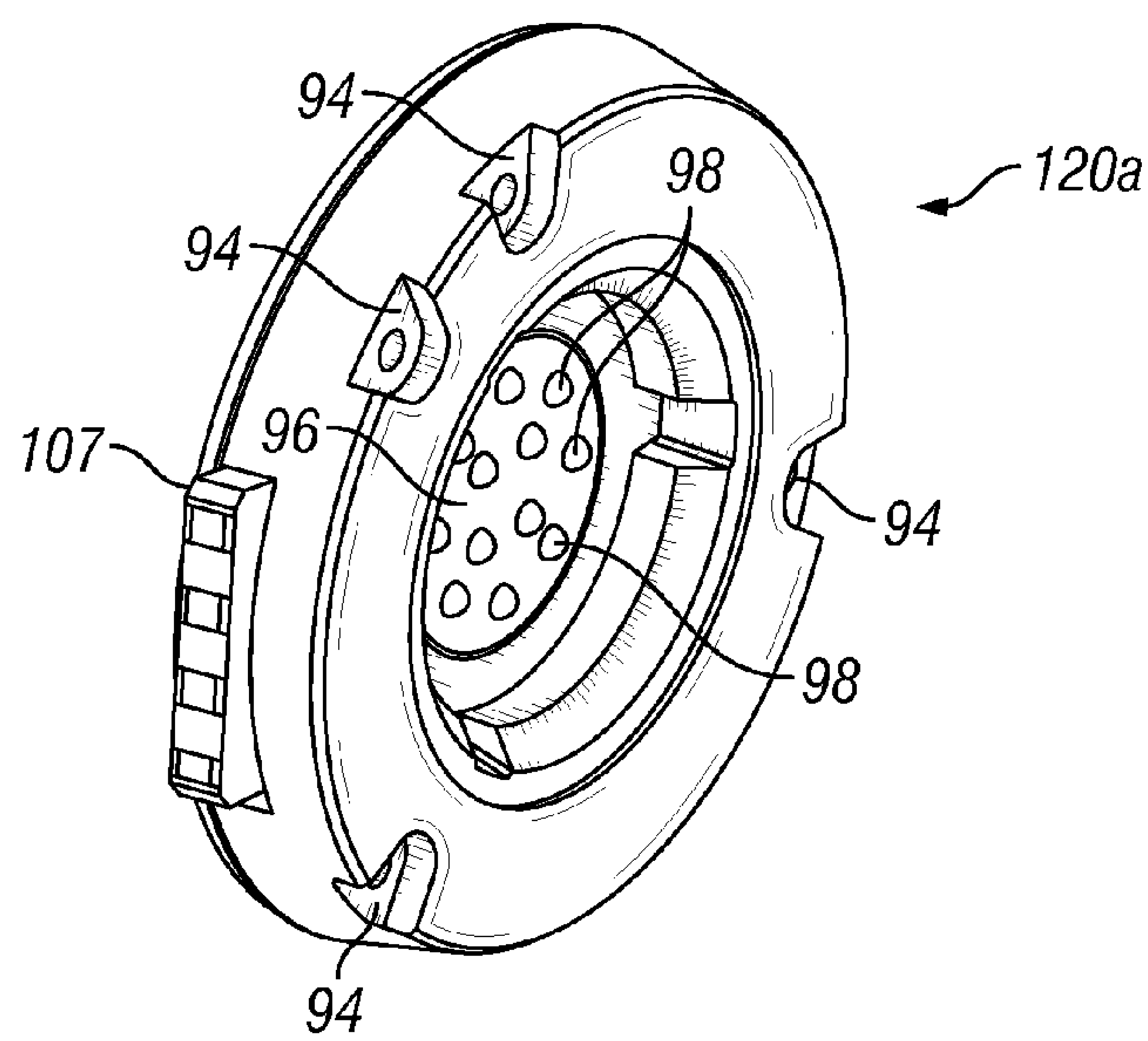
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FIG. 5

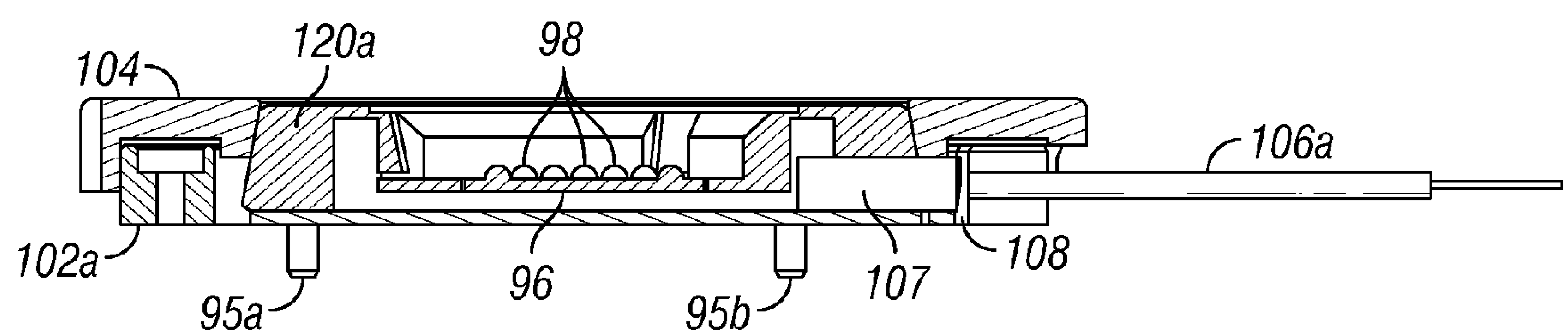
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FIG. 6

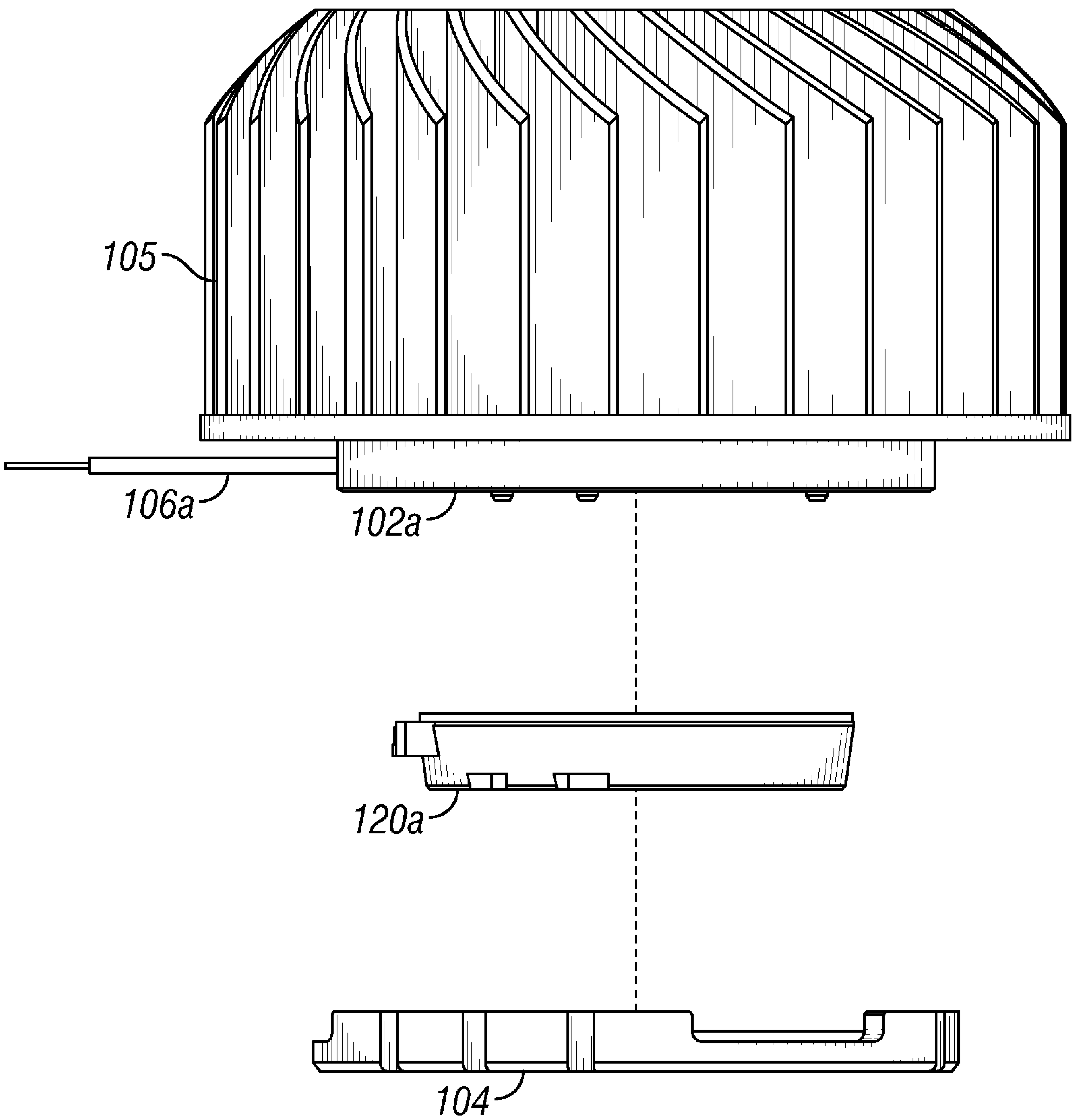

FIG. 7

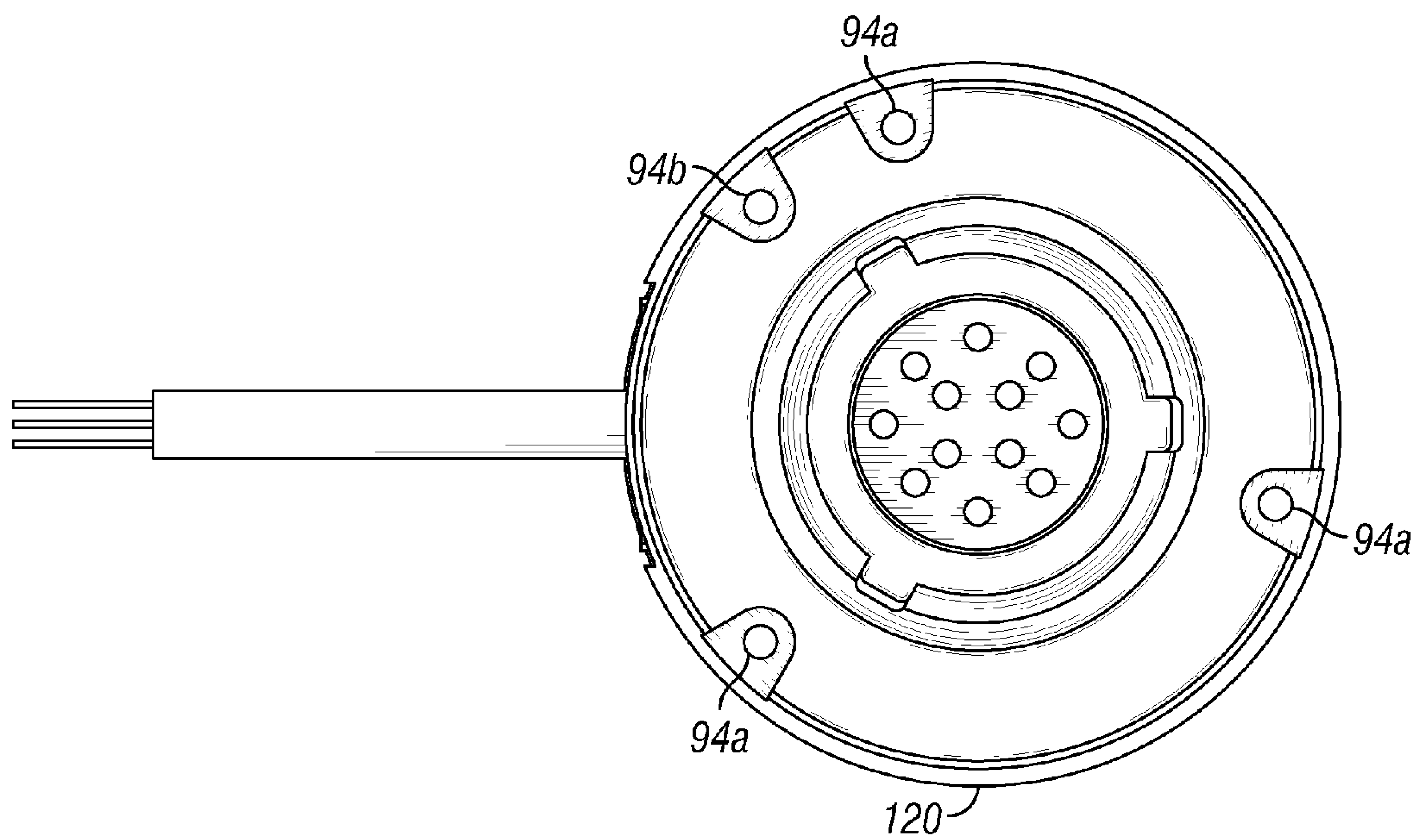

FIG. 8

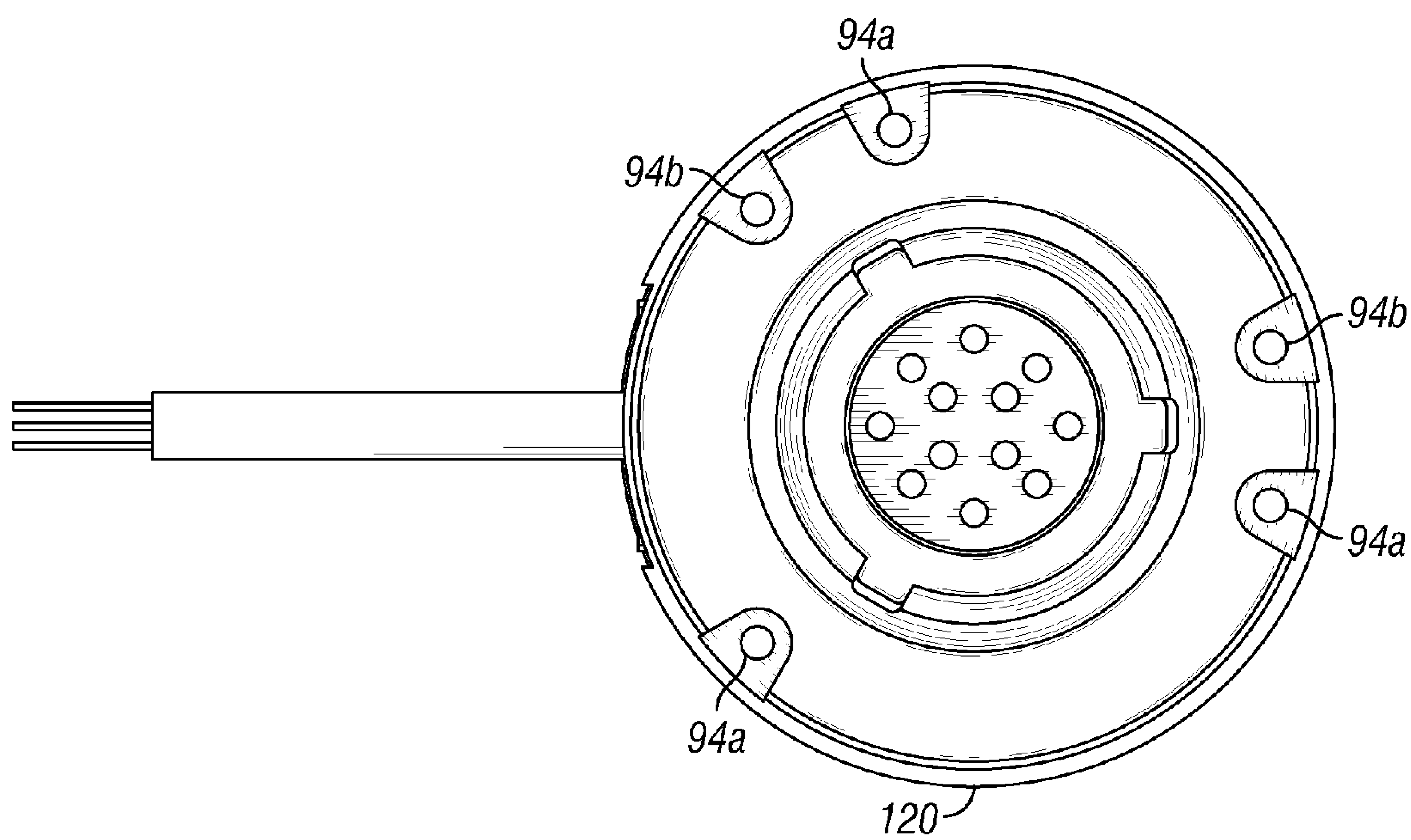

FIG. 9

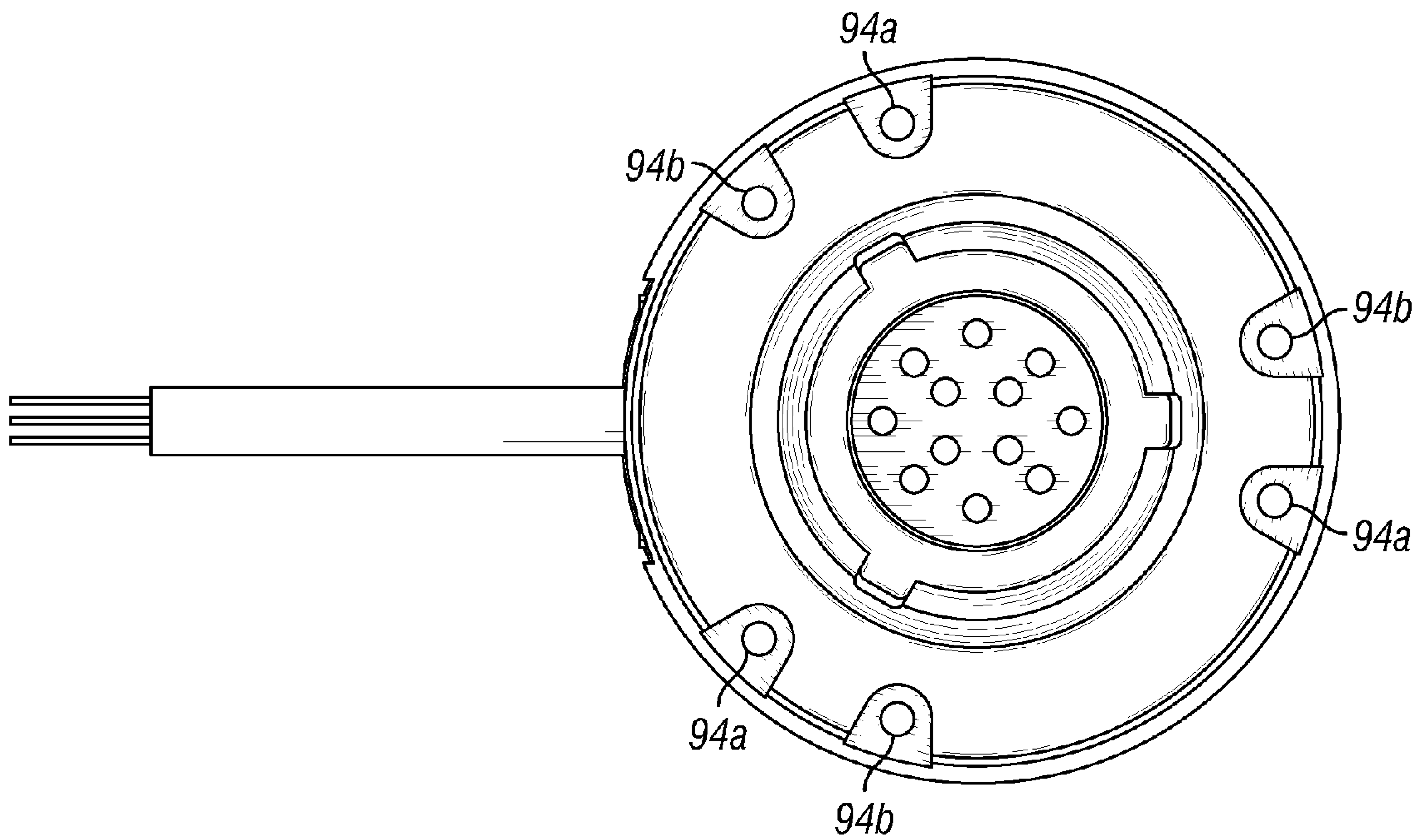

FIG. 10

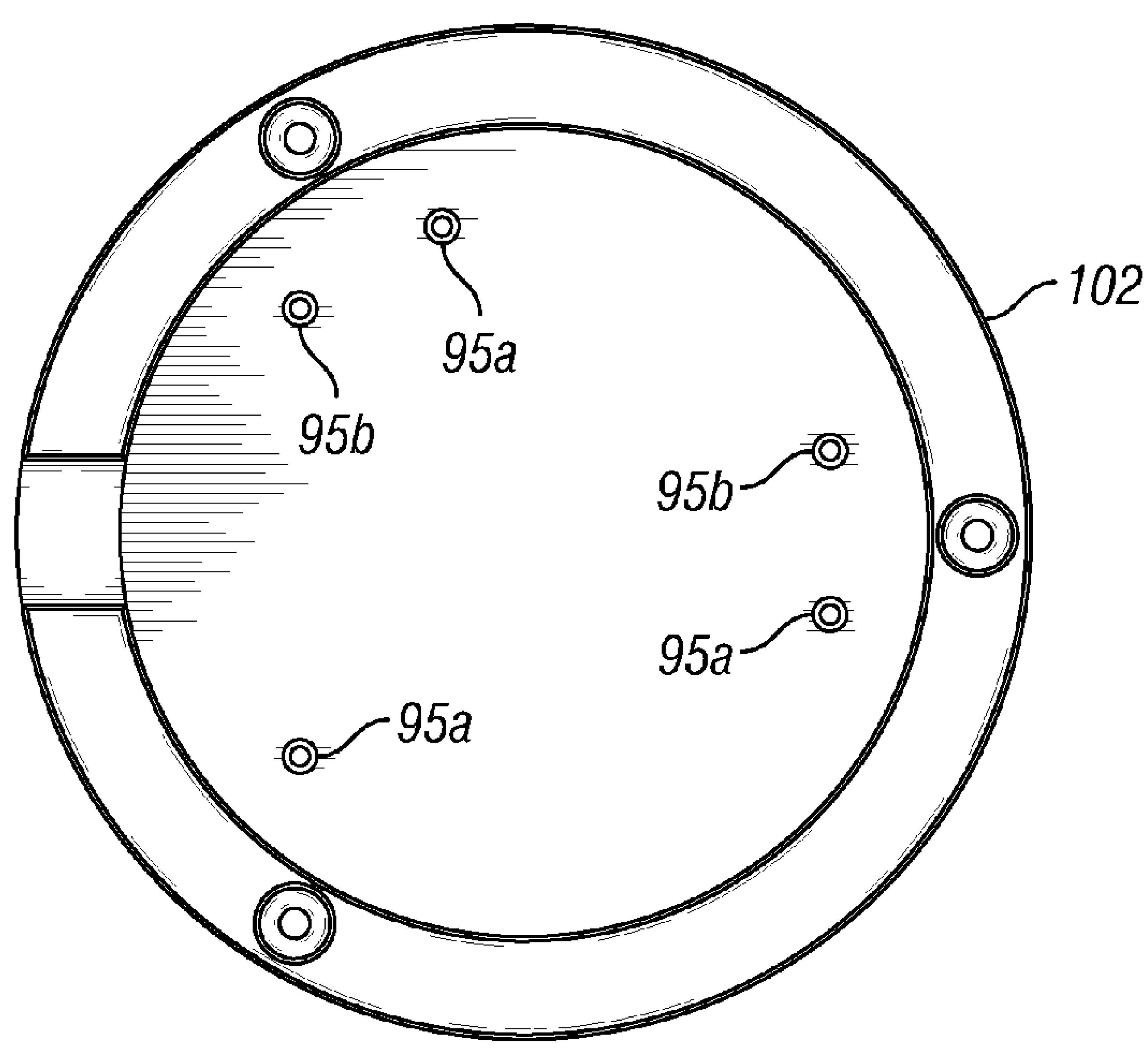

FIG. 11

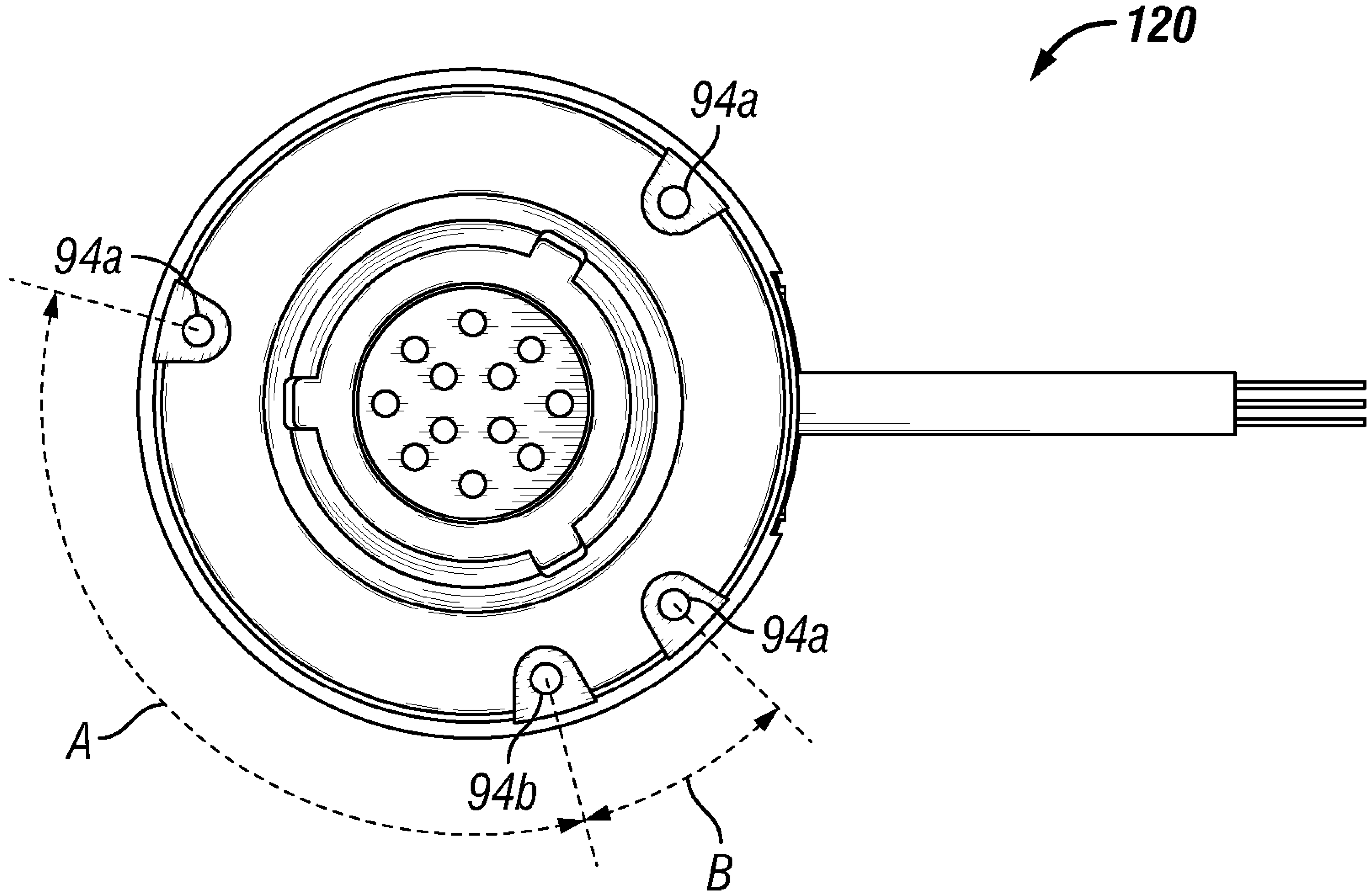

FIG. 12

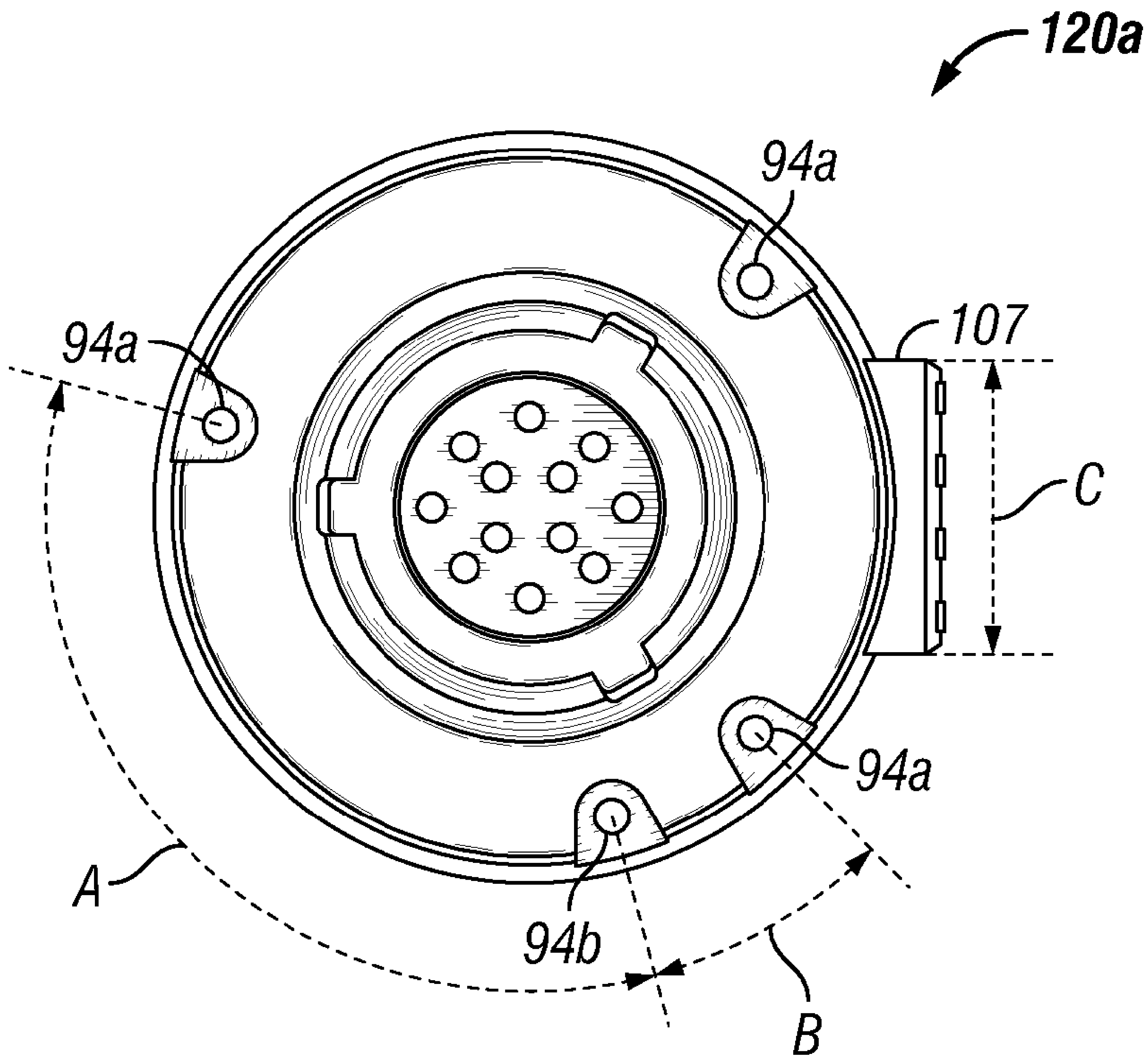

FIG. 13

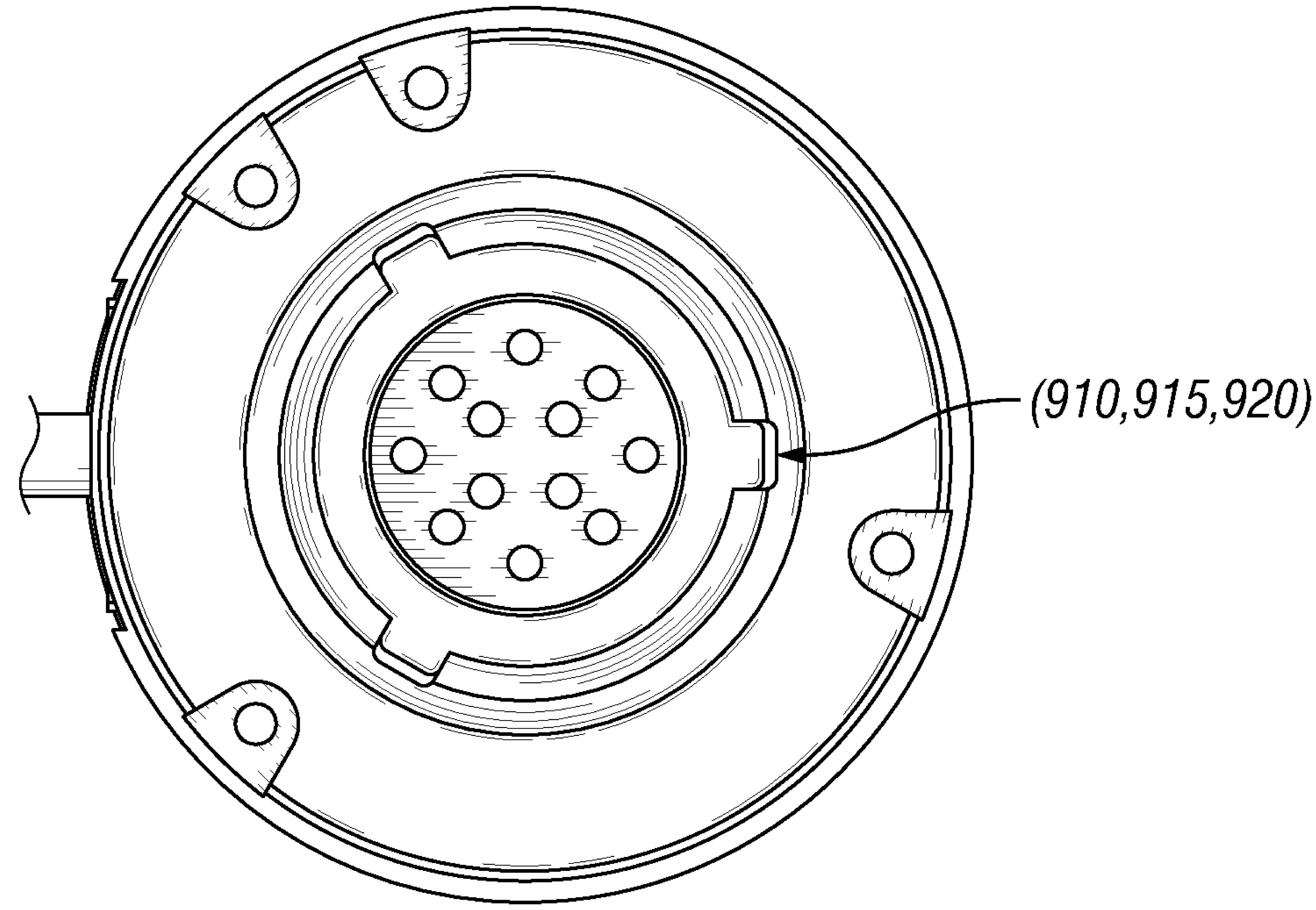

FIG. 14

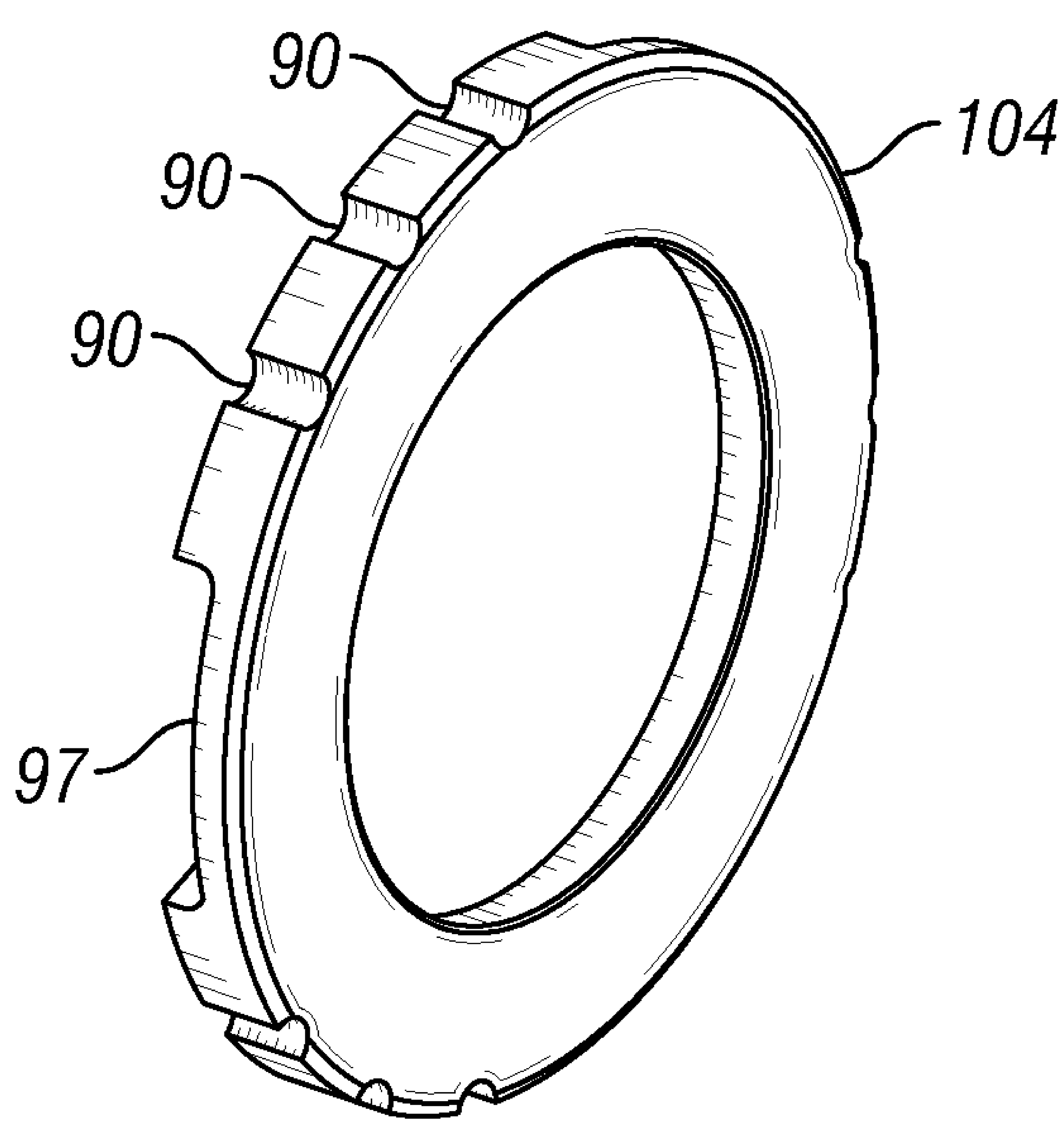

FIG. 15

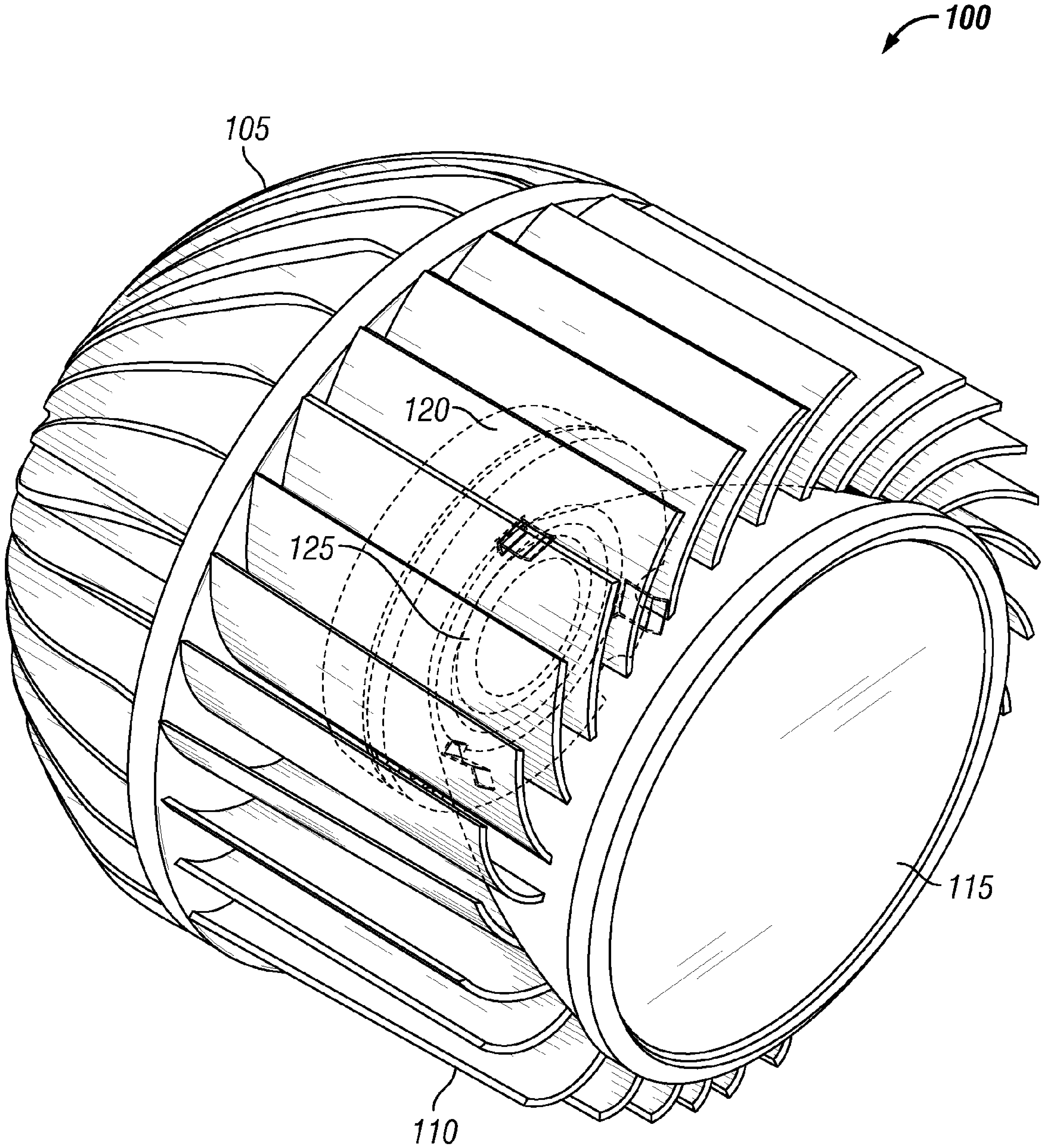

FIG. 16

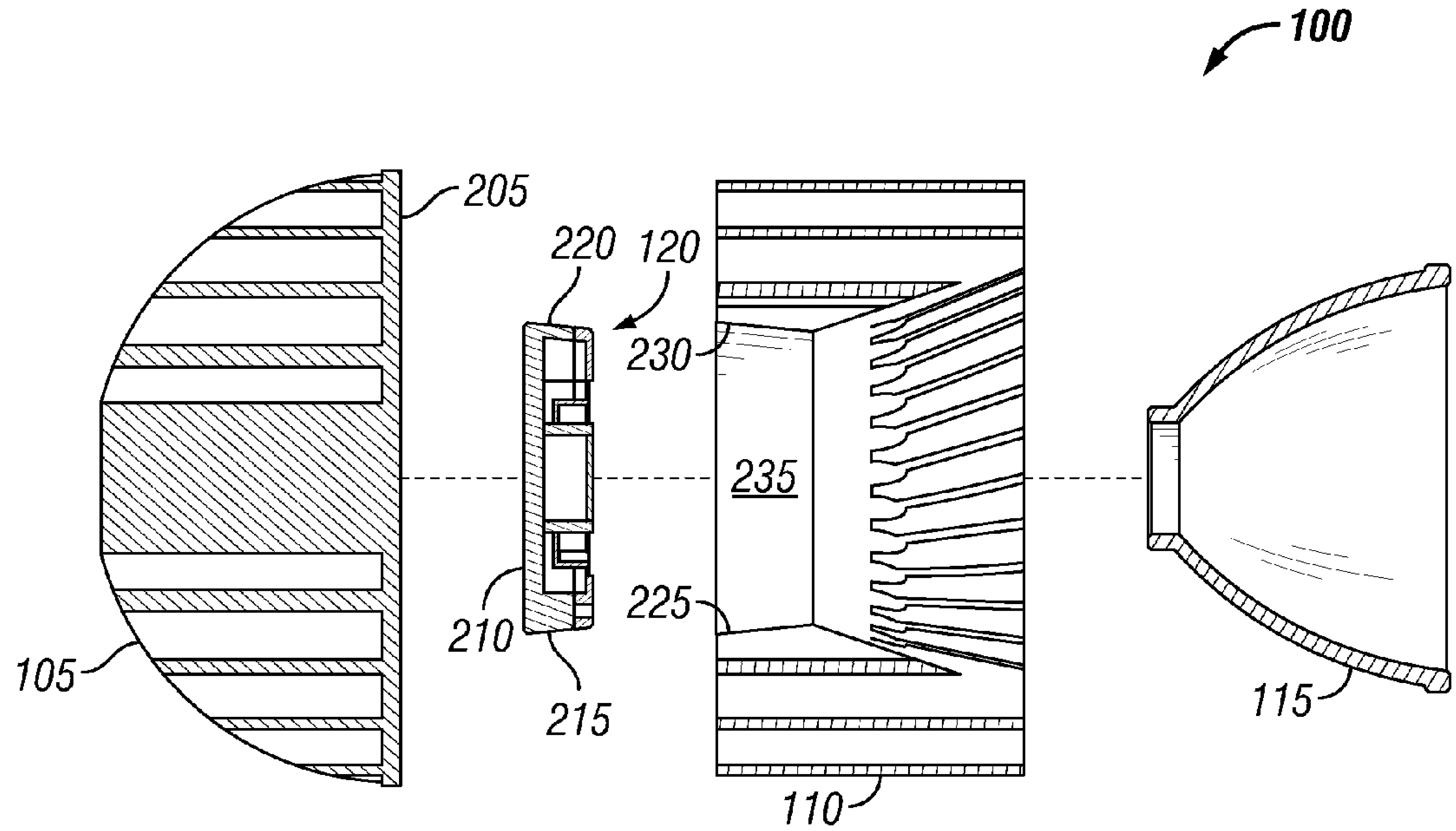
100
205
220
120
230
235
225
210
215
105
110
115

FIG. 17

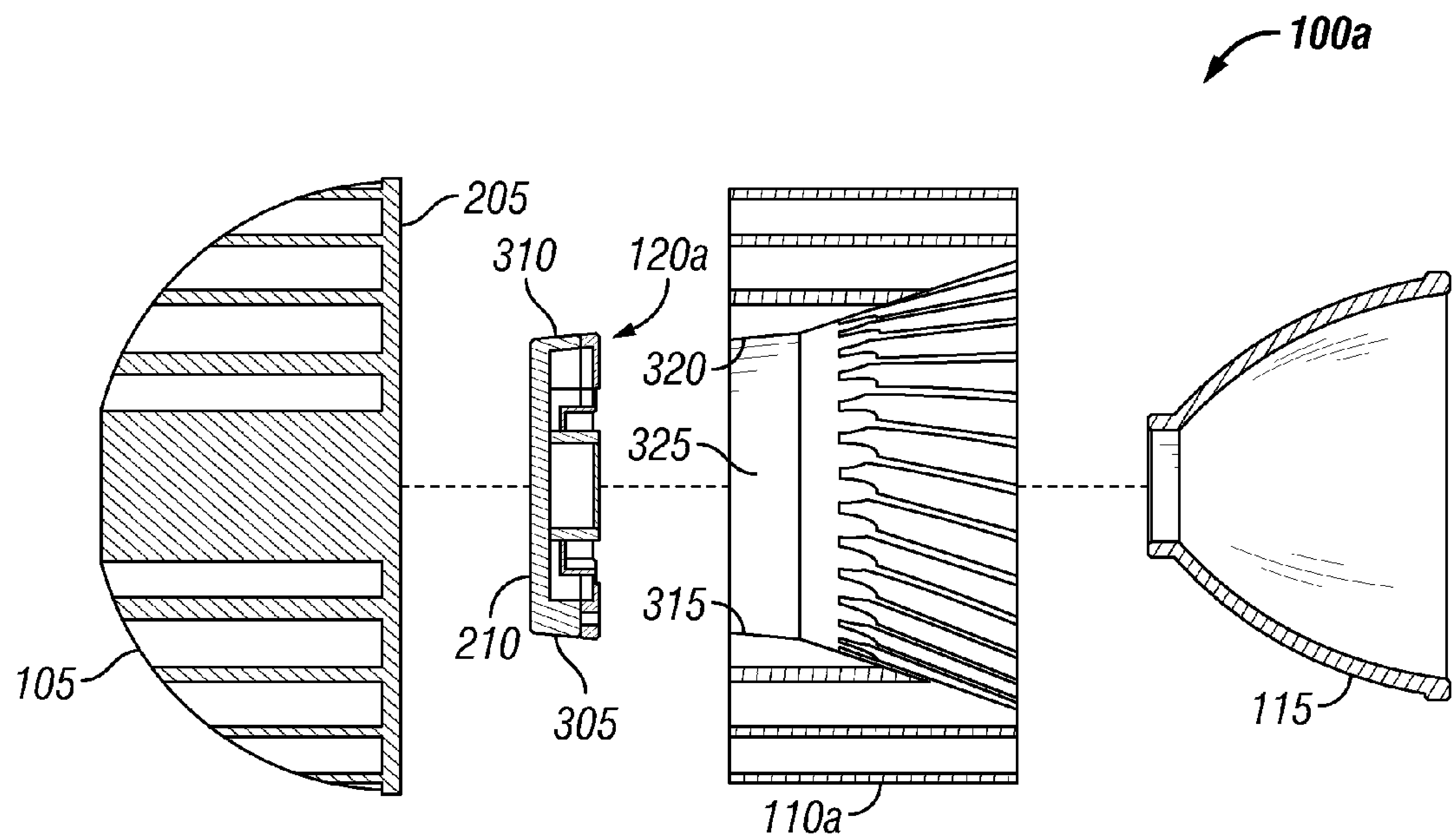
100a
205
310
120a
320
325
315
210
305
105
110a
115

FIG. 18

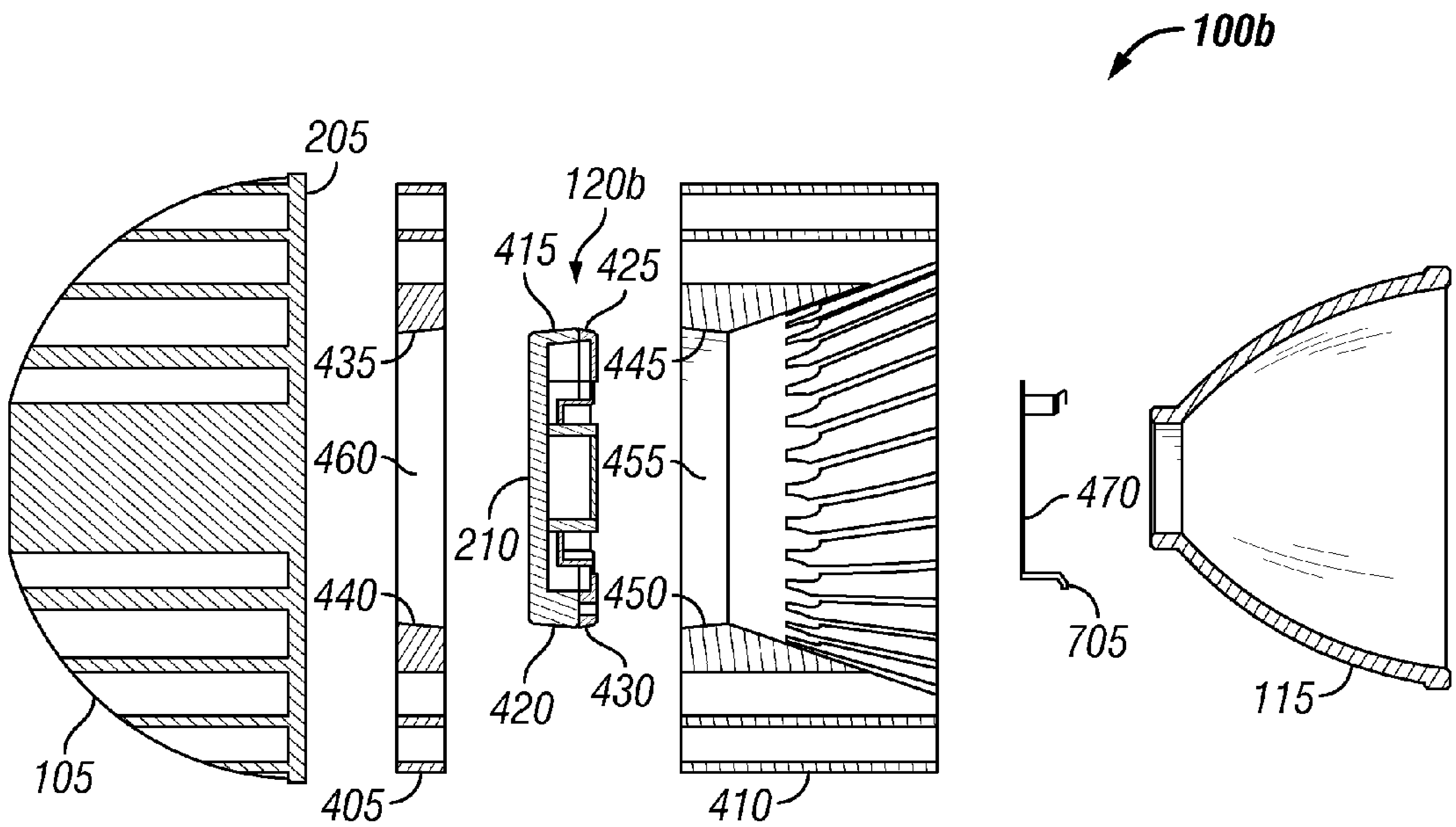
100b
205
120b
415
425
435
445
460
455
210
470
440
450
705
420
430
115
105
405
410

FIG. 19

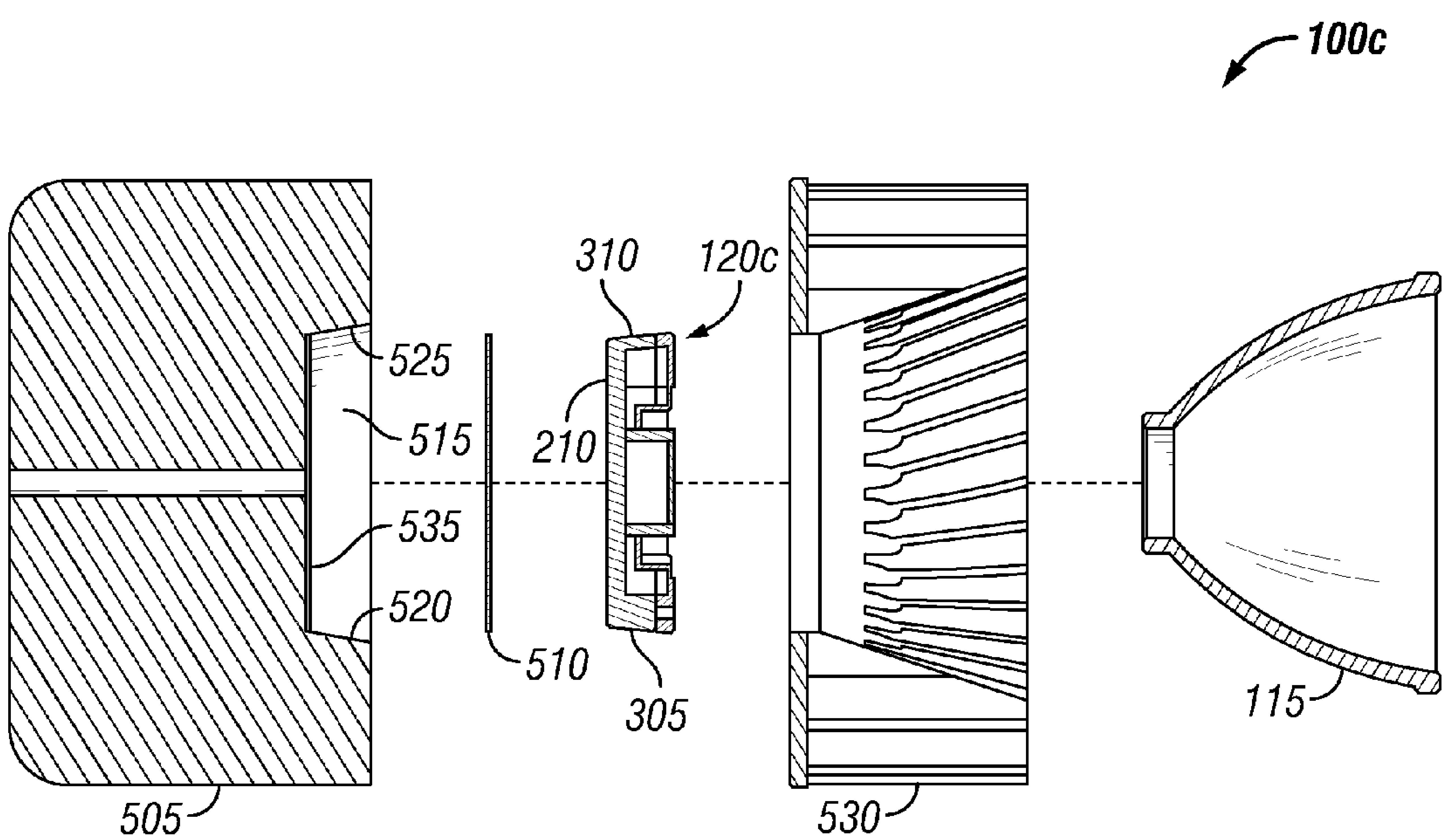
100c
310
120c
525
515
210
535
520
510
305
115
505
530

FIG. 20

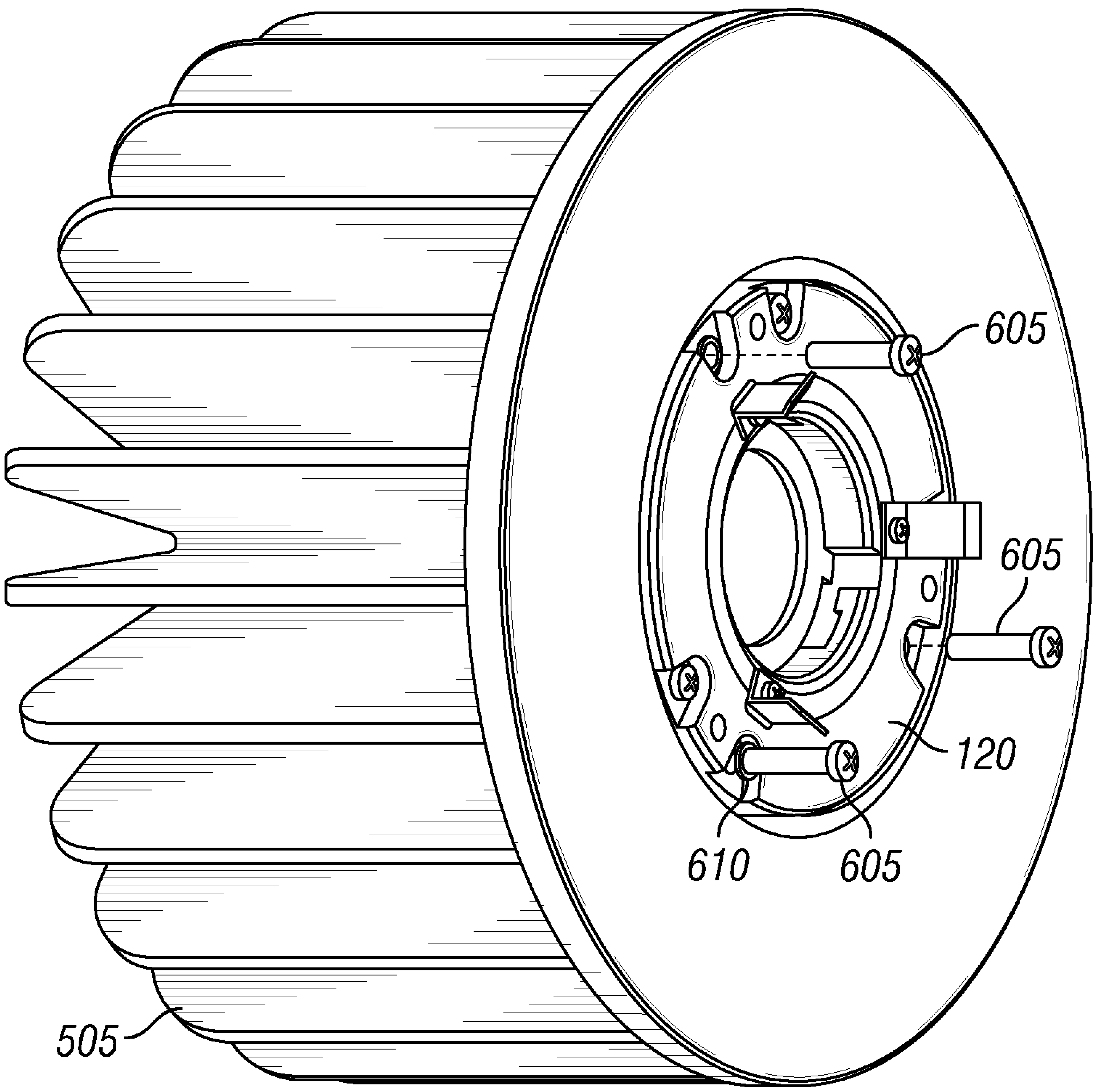

FIG. 21

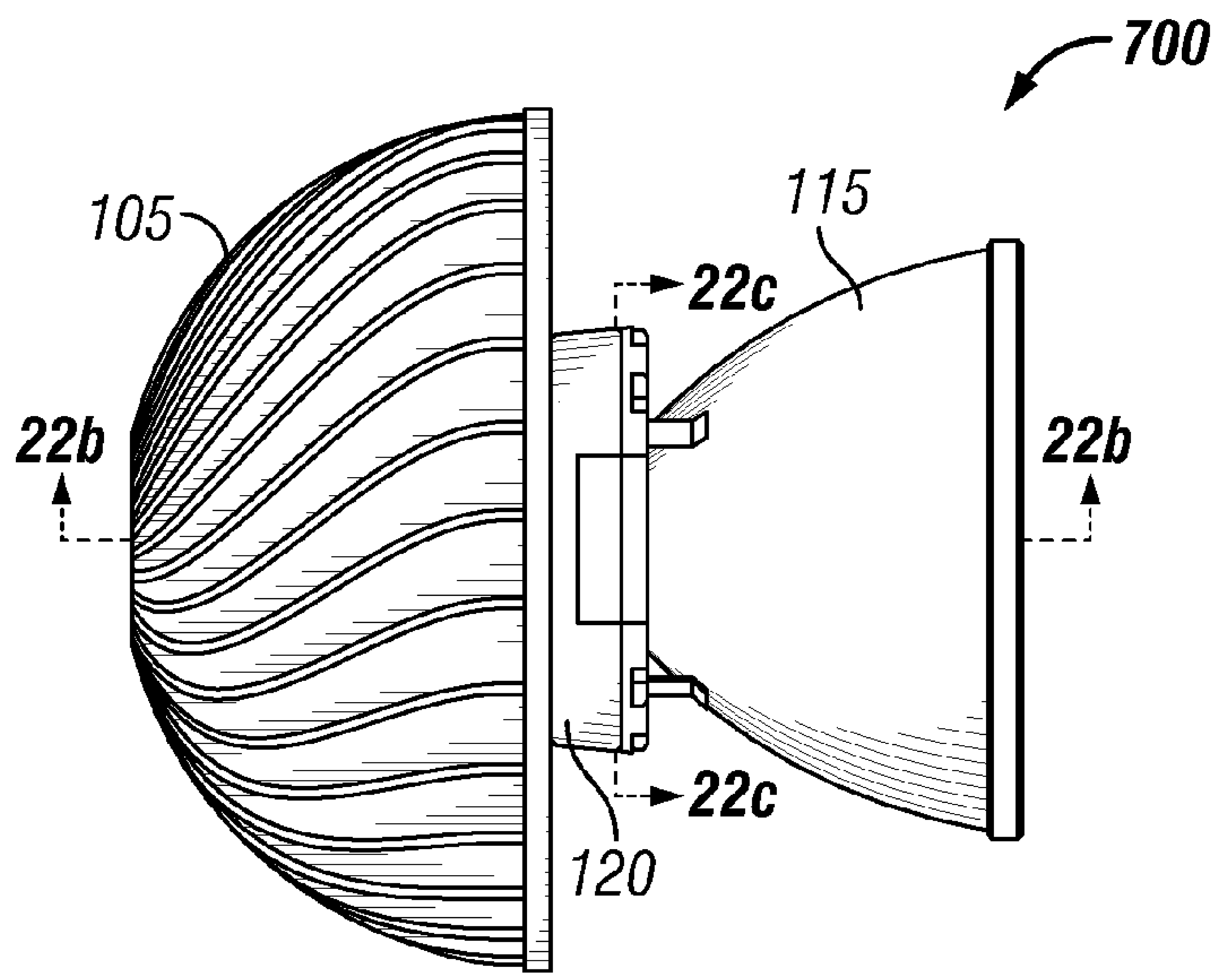

FIG. 22A

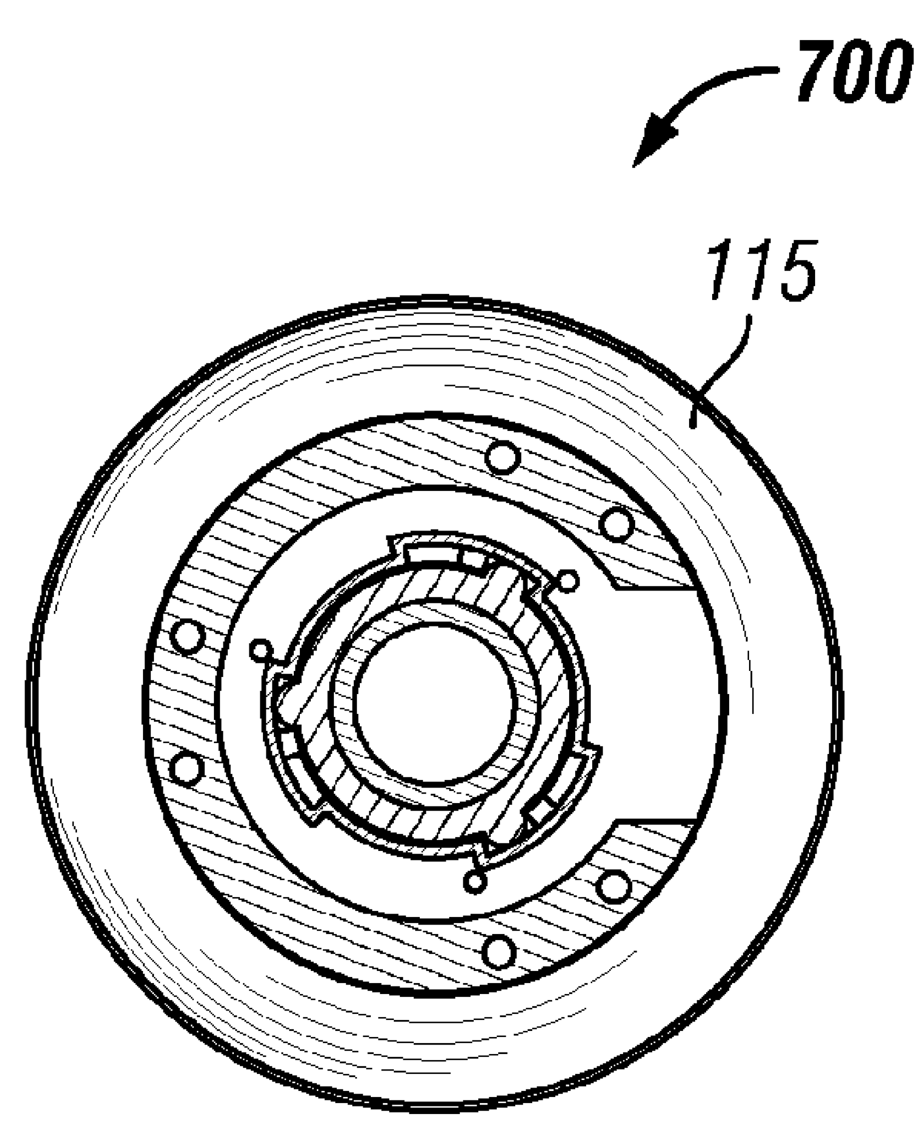

FIG. 22C

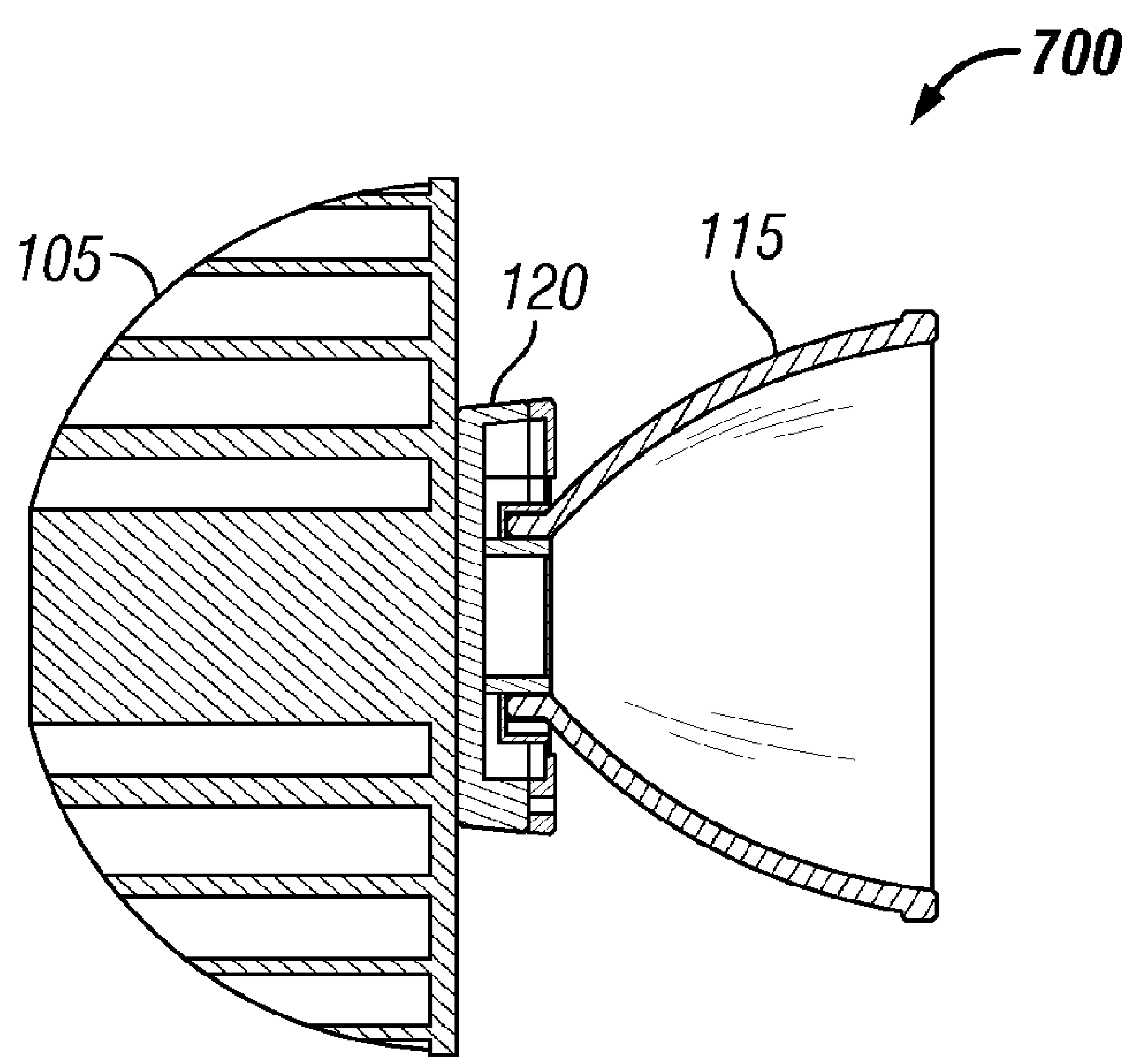

FIG. 22B

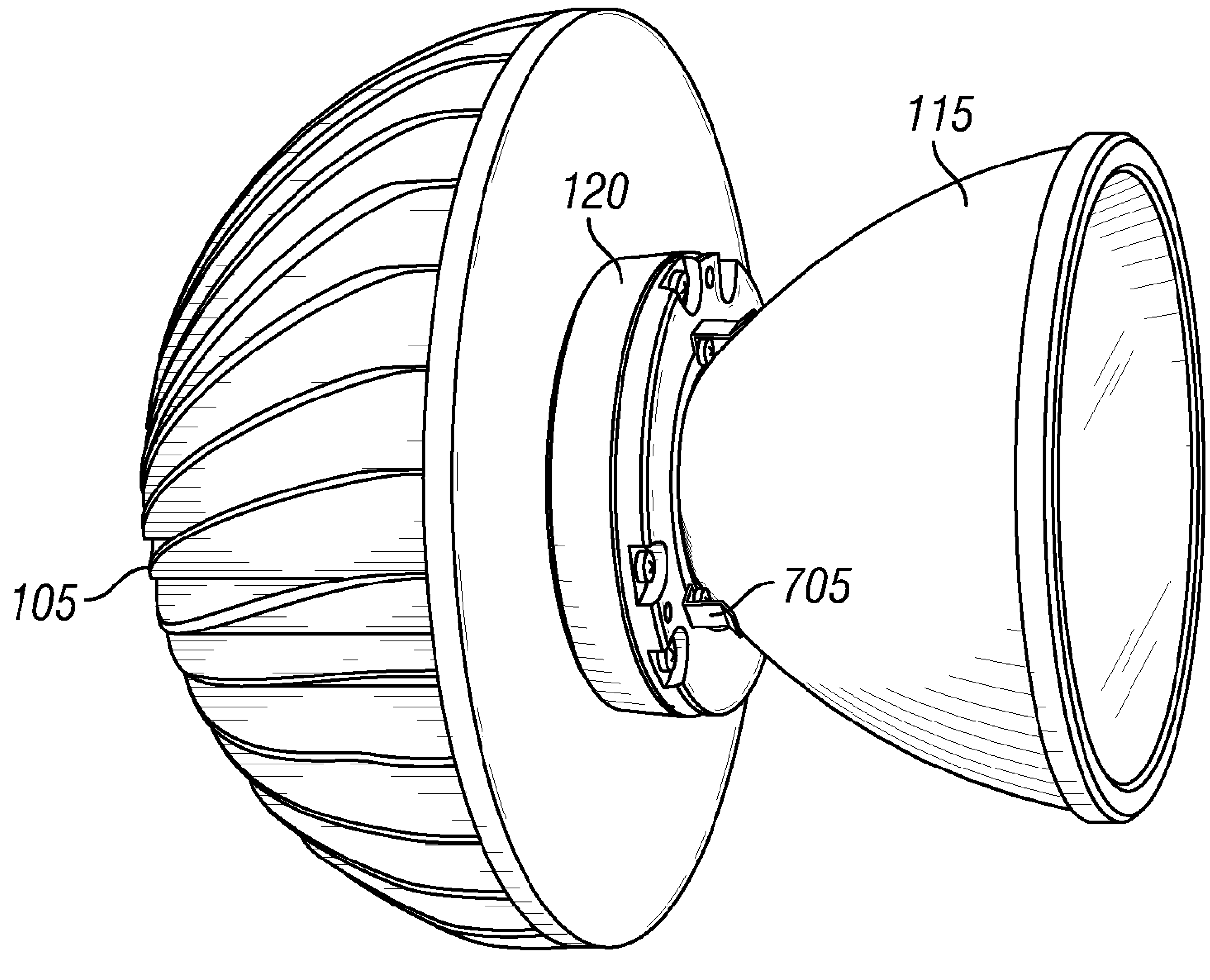

FIG. 23

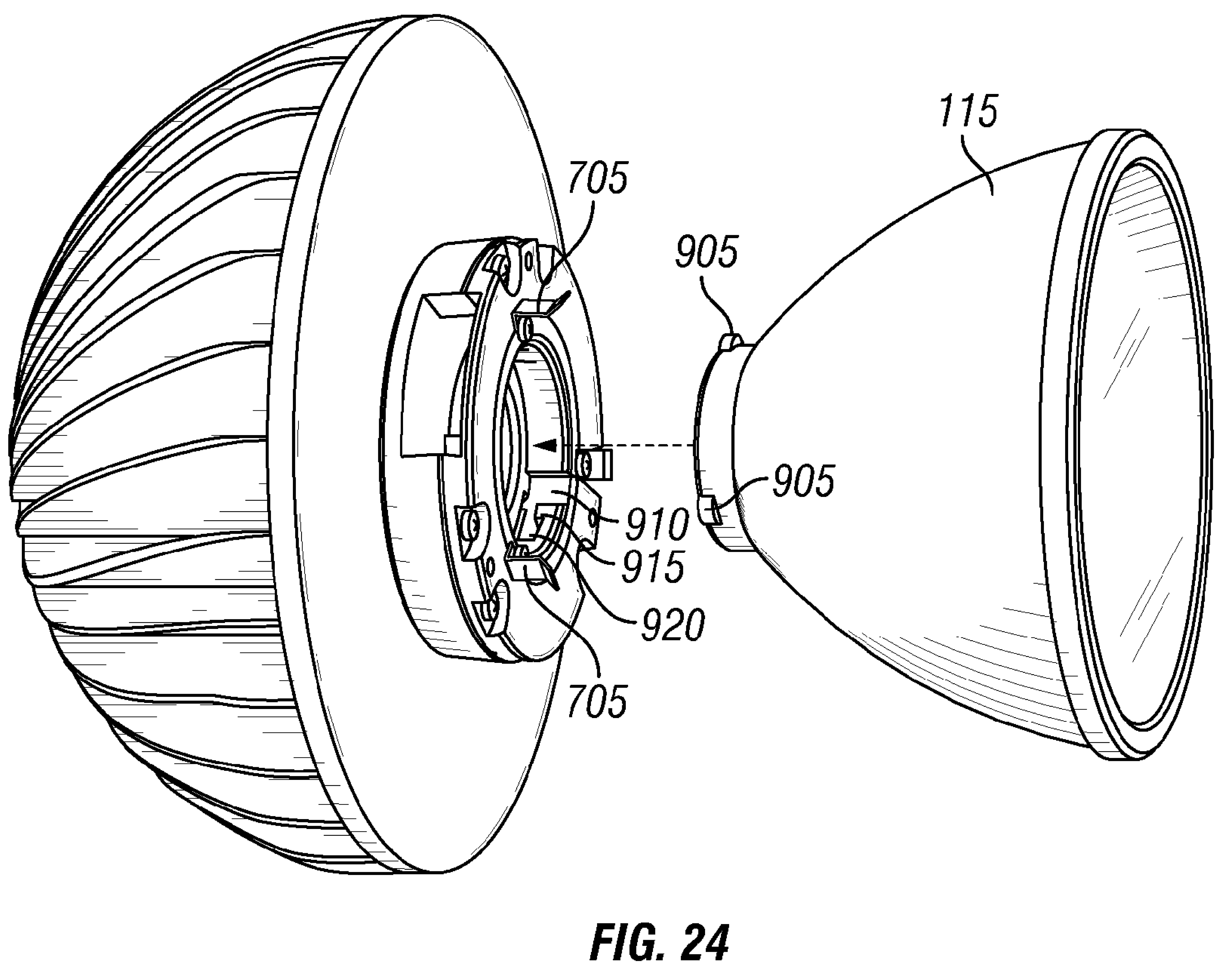

FIG. 24

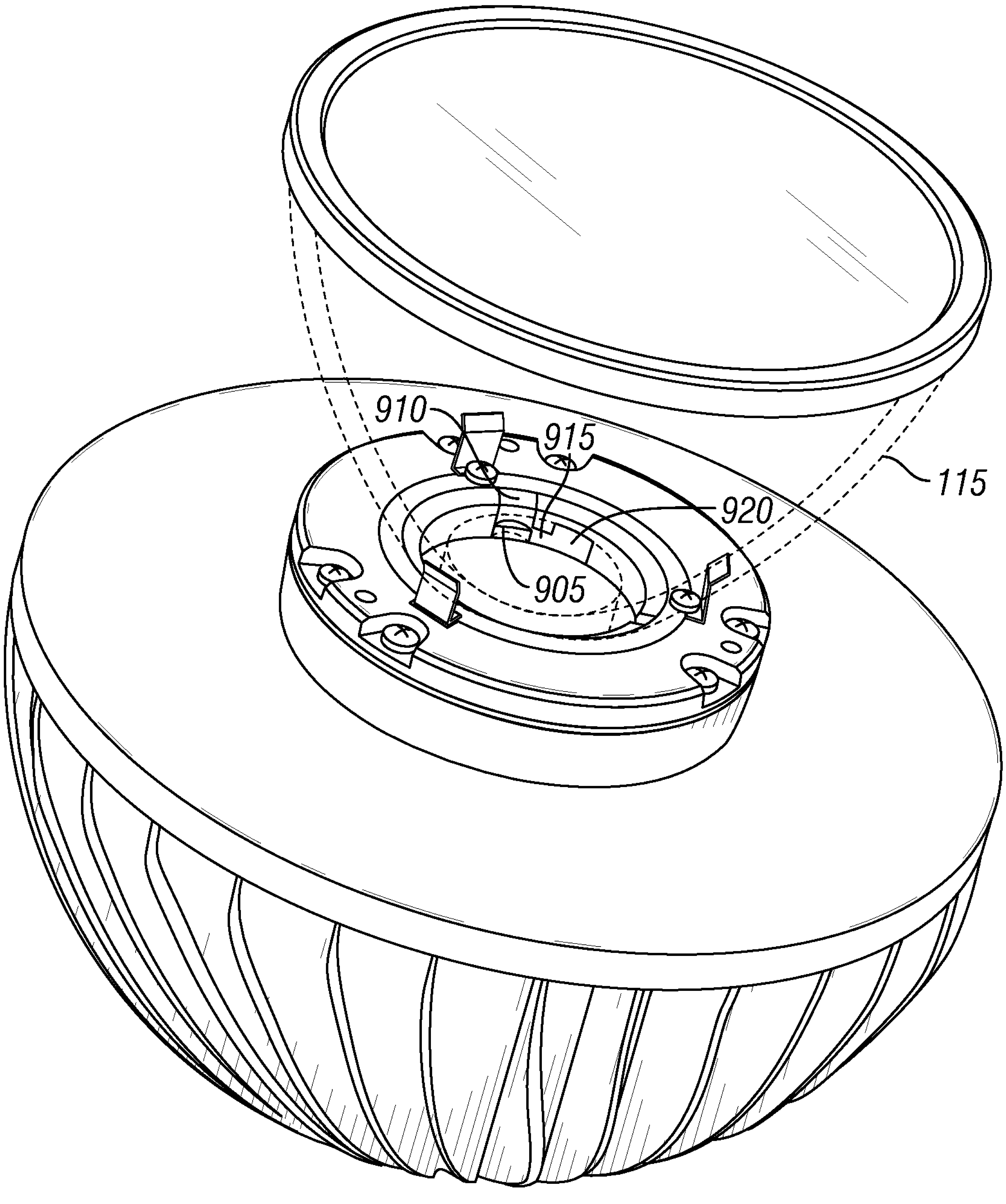

FIG. 25

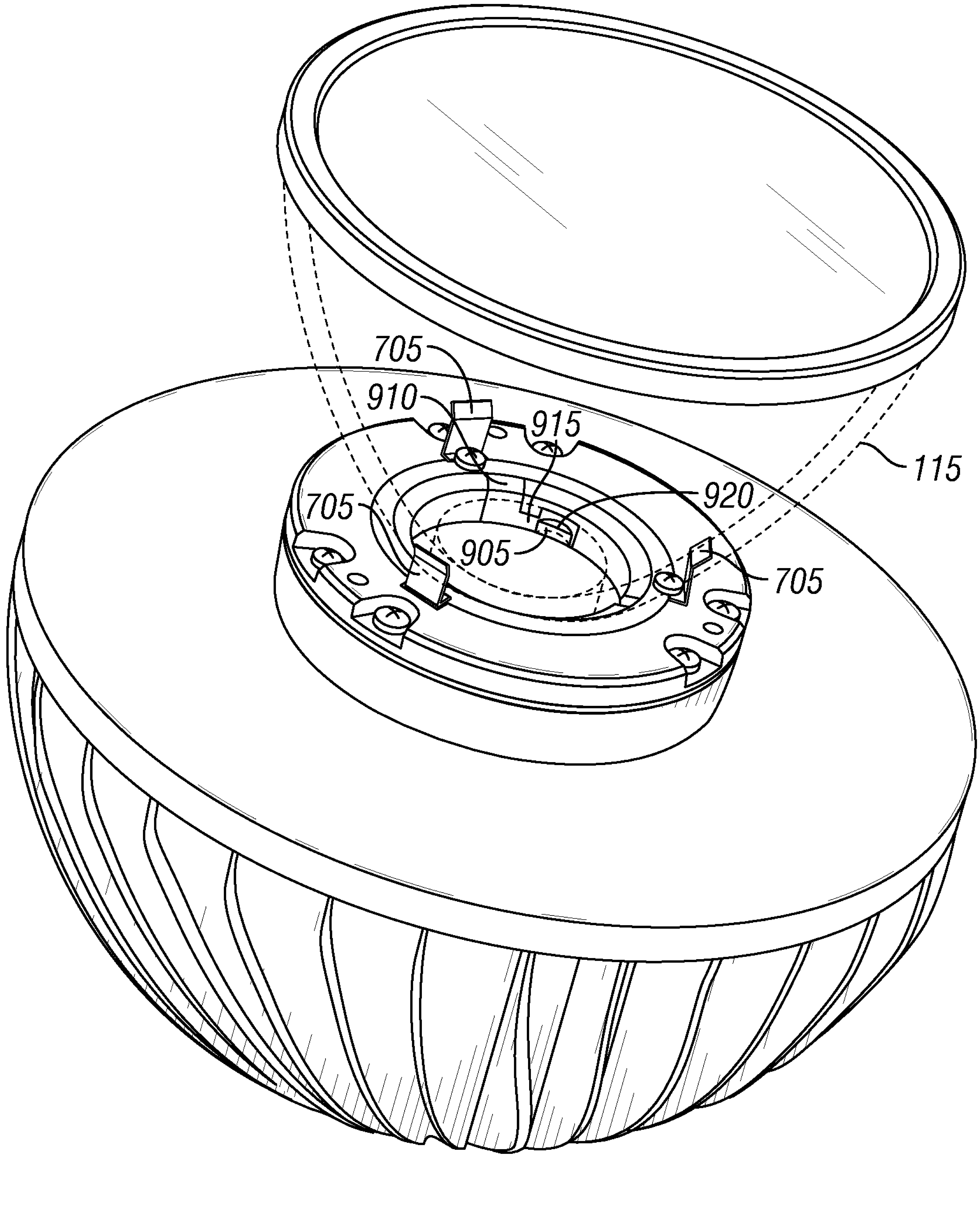

FIG. 26

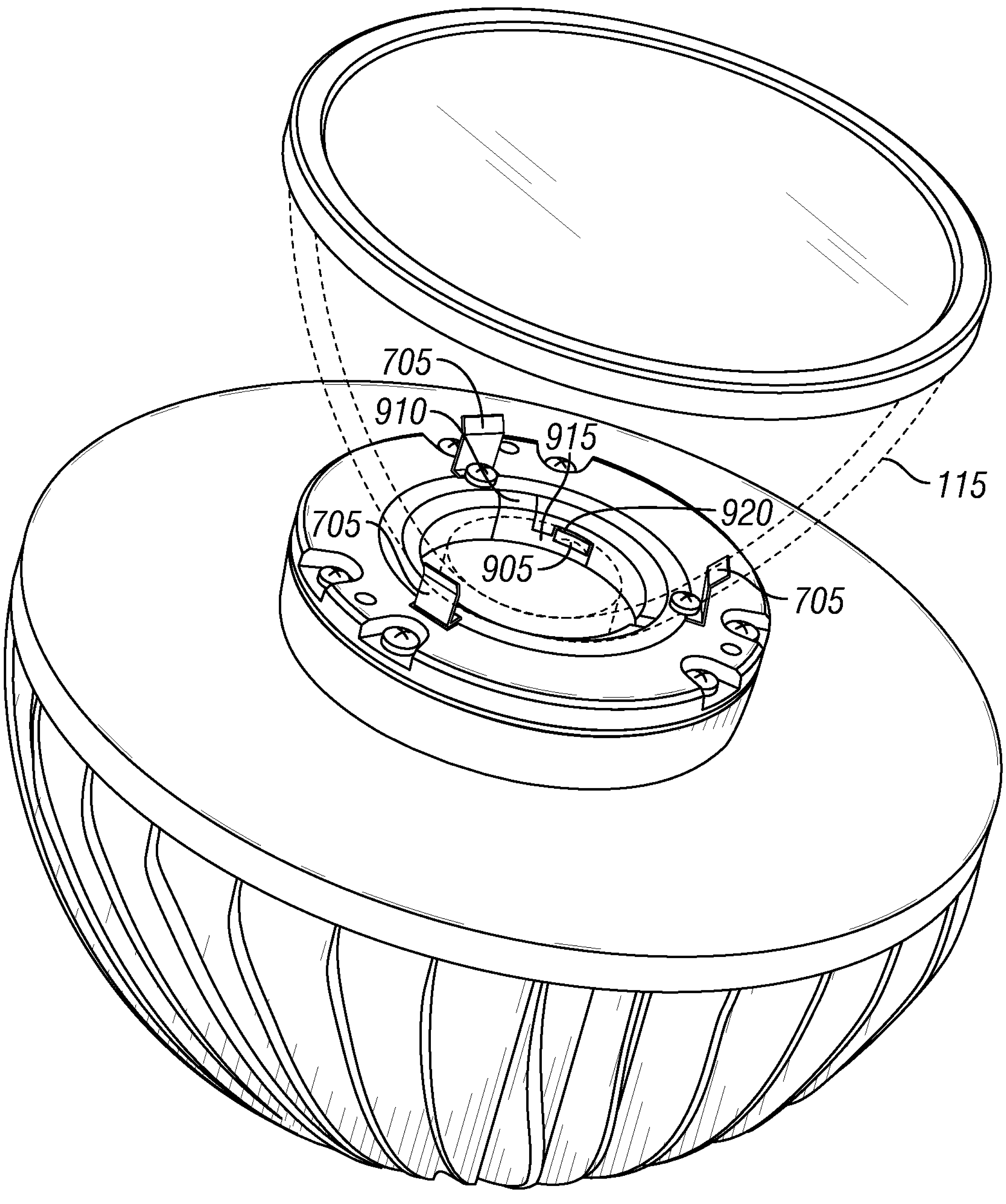

FIG. 27

INTERFACING A LIGHT EMITTING DIODE (LED) MODULE TO A HEAT SINK ASSEMBLY, A LIGHT REFLECTOR AND ELECTRICAL CIRCUITS

RELATED PATENT APPLICATIONS

This application is a divisional application of and claims priority to U.S. patent application Ser. No. 12/838,774, filed Jul. 19, 2010, and titled "Interfacing A Light Emitting Diode (Led) Module To A Heat Sink Assembly, A Light Reflector And Electrical Circuits," which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 61/332,731, filed May 7, 2010, and titled "Systems, Methods and Devices for a Modular LED Light Engine," and U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 61/227,333, filed Jul. 21, 2009, and titled "LED Module Interface for a Heat Sink and a Reflector." All three are hereby incorporated herein by reference for all purposes.

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to an apparatus and methods of manufacture for a light emitting diode ("LED") device. More specifically, the invention relates to apparatus and methods for interfacing a heat sink, a reflector and electrical connections with an LED device module.

BACKGROUND

LEDs offer benefits over incandescent and fluorescent lights as sources of illumination. Such benefits include high energy efficiency and longevity. To produce a given output of light, an LED consumes less electricity than an incandescent or a fluorescent light, and, on average, the LED will last longer before requiring replacement.

The level of light a typical LED outputs depends upon the amount of electrical current supplied to the LED and upon the operating temperature of the LED. That is, the intensity of light emitted by an LED changes according to electrical current and LED temperature. Operating temperature also impacts the usable lifetime of most LEDs.

As a byproduct of converting electricity into light, LEDs generate heat that can raise the operating temperature if allowed to accumulate, resulting in efficiency degradation and premature failure. The conventional technologies available for handling and removing this heat are generally limited in terms of performance and integration. For example, conventional thermal interfaces between and LED and a heat sink are typically achieved by attaching LED modules to a flat surface of a heat sink or using a screw thread and a mounting ring. While this conventional design may provide sufficient cooling between the bottom of the LED module and the flat portion of the heat sink, cooling for the sides and top of the LED module is lacking.

Accordingly, to address these representative deficiencies in the art, an improved technology for managing the heat and light LEDs produce is needed that increases the contact surface between the LED module and the heat sink, and provides a back side and front side interface to improve heat management. A need also exists for an integrated system that can manage heat and light in an LED-base luminaire. Yet another need exists for technology to remove heat via convection, conduction and/or radiation while controlling light with a suitable level of finesse. Still another need exists for an integrated system that provides thermal management, mechanical support, and optical positioning and control. An additional need exists for a compact lighting system having a design supporting low-cost manufacture. A capability addressing one or more of the aforementioned needs would advance acceptance and implementation of LED lighting.

SUMMARY

The aforementioned deficiencies and needs are addressed, according to the teachings of this disclosure, with a light emitting diode (LED) module that is in thermal communication with front and back heat sinks for dissipation of heat therefrom. The LED module is physically held in place with at least the back heat sink. A mounting ring and locking ring can also be used to hold the LED module in place and in thermal communication with the back heat sink. Key pins and key holes are used to prevent using a high power LED module with a back heat sink having insufficient heat dissipation capabilities required for the high power LED module. The key pins and key holes allow lower heat generating (power) LED modules to be used with higher heat dissipating heat sinks, but higher heat generating (power) LED modules cannot be used with lower heat dissipating heat sinks.

According to a specific example embodiment of this disclosure, an apparatus for illumination comprises: a light emitting diode (LED) module, the LED module comprising a thermally conductive back, a substrate having a plurality of light emitting diodes thereon and electrical connections thereto, and at least one first key means and at least one first position means; a back heat sink having heat dissipation properties and a thermally conductive face, at least one second key means and at least one second position means, wherein the at least one first and second key means and the at least one first and second position means cooperate together, respectively, so that the LED module cannot be used with a back heat sink not having sufficient thermal dissipation capacity necessary for removal of heat from the thermally conductive back of the LED module; a mounting ring, wherein the mounting ring is attached to the back heat sink; and a locking ring, wherein the locking ring secures the LED module to the mounting ring so that the LED module is located between the locking ring and the mounting ring, and the back of the LED module and face of the back heat sink are in thermal communication.

According to another specific example embodiment of this disclosure, an apparatus for illumination comprises: a light emitting diode (LED) module, the LED module comprising a thermally conductive back, a substrate having a plurality of light emitting diodes thereon and electrical connections thereto, and tapered sides extending around a circumference of the thermally conductive back and in thermal communication therewith, wherein a back circumference of the tapered sides is greater than a front circumference of the tapered sides; a back heat sink, wherein a front face of the back heat sink is attached to the thermally conductive back of the LED module and is in thermal communication therewith; a front heat sink having a rear face and a cavity with sides protruding into the front heat sink, the cavity is centered in the front heat sink and is open toward a front face of the front heat sink, wherein the LED module fits into the cavity in the front heat sink such that the tapered sides of the LED module are in thermal communication with corresponding tapered sides of the cavity; and the front heat sink is attached to the rear heat sink, wherein the LED module is held in the cavity between the back and front heat sinks, and the front face of the back heat sink and the back face of the front heat sink are in thermal communication.

According to yet another specific example embodiment of this disclosure, an apparatus for illumination comprises: a

light emitting diode (LED) module, the LED module comprising a thermally conductive back, a substrate having a plurality of light emitting diodes thereon and electrical connections thereto, and tapered sides extending around a circumference of the thermally conductive back and in thermal communication therewith, wherein a back circumference of the tapered sides is less than a front circumference of the tapered sides; a back heat sink, wherein a front face of the back heat sink is attached to the thermally conductive back of the LED module and is in thermal communication therewith; a front heat sink having a rear face and a cavity with sides protruding into the front heat sink, the cavity is centered in the front heat sink and is open toward a front face of the front heat sink, wherein the LED module fits into the cavity in the front heat sink such that the tapered sides of the LED module are in thermal communication with corresponding tapered sides of the cavity; and the front heat sink is attached to the rear heat sink, wherein the LED module is in the cavity and holds the front heat sink to the back heat sink, and the front face of the back heat sink and the back face of the front heat sink are in thermal communication.

According to still another specific example embodiment of this disclosure, an apparatus for illumination comprises: a light emitting diode (LED) module, the LED module comprising a thermally conductive back, a substrate having a plurality of light emitting diodes thereon and electrical connections thereto, a front, tapered first sides extending around a circumference of the thermally conductive back and in thermal communication therewith, wherein a back circumference of the tapered first sides is less than a front circumference of the tapered first sides, and tapered second sides extending around a circumference of the front of the LED module, wherein a front circumference of the tapered second sides is less than a circumference where the tapered second sides and the tapered first sides meet; a back heat sink having a front face; an interposing heat sink having front and rear faces and an opening with tapered sides protruding through the interposing heat sink, the opening is centered in the interposing heat sink, wherein the tapered first sides of the LED module fit into the opening of the interposing heat sink such that the tapered first sides of the LED module are in thermal communication with the corresponding tapered sides of the opening in the interposing heat sink; a front heat sink having a rear face and a cavity with sides protruding into the front heat sink, the cavity is centered in the front heat sink and is open toward a front face of the front heat sink, wherein the LED module fits into the cavity in the front heat sink such that the tapered second sides of the LED module are in thermal communication with corresponding tapered sides of the cavity; and the front, interposing and back heat sinks are attached together and in thermal communication, wherein the front and interposing heat sinks hold the LED module to the back heat sink.

According to another specific example embodiment of this disclosure, an apparatus for illumination comprises: a light emitting diode (LED) module, the LED module comprising a thermally conductive back, a substrate having a plurality of light emitting diodes thereon and electrical connections thereto, and tapered sides extending around a circumference of the thermally conductive back and in thermal communication therewith, wherein a back circumference of the tapered sides is less than a front circumference of the tapered sides; a back heat sink having a front face and a cavity with sides protruding into the back heat sink, the cavity is centered in the back heat sink, open at the front face of the back heat sink and closed at a back of the cavity away from the front face of the back heat sink, wherein the LED module fits into the cavity in the back heat sink such that the tapered sides of the LED module are in thermal communication with corresponding tapered sides of the cavity, and the back of the cavity in the back heat sink is in thermal communication with the thermally conductive back of the LED module; and a front heat sink having a rear face and an opening therethrough, wherein the front face of the back heat sink and the back face of the front heat sink are in thermal communication.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

For a more complete understanding of the present invention and the advantages thereof, reference is now made to the following description, in conjunction with the accompanying figures briefly described as follows.

FIG. **1** illustrates a schematic exploded perspective view of a modular LED device comprising a heat sink, a mounting ring, a LED light engine module with electrical leads, and a locking ring, according to a specific example embodiment of this disclosure;

FIG. **2** illustrates a schematic perspective view of the LED light engine module with electrical leads as shown in FIG. **1**;

FIG. **3** illustrates a schematic elevational view of the LED light engine module with electrical leads as shown in FIGS. **1** and **2**;

FIG. **4** illustrates a schematic exploded perspective view of a modular LED device comprising a heat sink, a mounting ring, a LED light engine module with integrated electrical contacts, and a locking ring, according to another specific example embodiment of this disclosure;

FIG. **5** illustrates a schematic perspective view of the LED light engine module with integrated electrical contacts as shown in FIG. **4**;

FIG. **6** illustrates a schematic elevational view of the LED light engine module having integrated electrical contacts as shown in FIGS. **4** and **5**;

FIG. **7** illustrates a generic schematic exploded elevational view of the modular LED device shown in FIG. **4**;

FIG. **8** illustrates a schematic plan view of a high lumen package light engine, according to a specific example embodiment of this disclosure;

FIG. **9** illustrates a schematic plan view of a medium lumen package light engine, according to another specific example embodiment of this disclosure;

FIG. **10** illustrates a schematic plan view of a low lumen package light engine, according to yet another specific example embodiment of this disclosure;

FIG. **11** illustrates a schematic plan view of a socket for the medium lumen package light engine shown in FIG. **9**;

FIG. **12** illustrates a plan view of the light engine of FIGS. **1-3** showing positional relationships of the position and key holes, according to the specific example embodiments of this disclosure;

FIG. **13** illustrates a plan view of the light engine of FIGS. **4-6** showing positional relationships of the position and key holes, and electrical connector, according to the specific example embodiments of this disclosure;

FIG. **14** illustrates a schematic plan view of the light engines shown in FIGS. **1-13** having optical system attachment features, according to specific example embodiments of this disclosure;

FIG. **15** illustrates a schematic perspective view of the locking ring shown in FIGS. **1** and **4**;

FIG. **16** illustrates a generic perspective view of the LED devices of FIGS. **1-15** shown fully assembled, according to specific example embodiments of this disclosure;

FIG. **17** illustrates an exploded elevational view of the LED device shown in FIG. **16**, according to a specific example embodiment of this disclosure;

FIG. **18** illustrates an exploded elevational view of the LED device shown in FIG. **16**, according to another specific example embodiment of this disclosure;

FIG. **19** illustrates an exploded elevational view of the LED device shown in FIG. **16**, according to yet another specific example embodiment of this disclosure;

FIG. **20** illustrates an exploded elevational view of the LED device shown in FIG. **16**, according to still another specific example embodiment of this disclosure;

FIG. **21** illustrates a perspective view of a portion of the LED device shown in FIG. **20**;

FIGS. **22A-22C** illustrate an elevational, and cross-sectional views of a light reflector assembly for use in combination with the LED devices shown in FIGS. **1-21**, according to the teachings of this disclosure;

FIG. **23** illustrates a perspective view of the reflector assembly shown in FIGS. **22A-22C** for use with any of the LED devices, according to the teachings of this disclosure;

FIG. **24** illustrates a partially exploded view of the reflector assembly shown in FIGS. **22A-22C** and **23**; and

FIGS. **25-27** illustrate perspective views with partial transparency of the reflector assembly shown in FIGS. **22A-22C** and **23**.

While the present disclosure is susceptible to various modifications and alternative forms, specific example embodiments thereof have been shown in the drawings and are herein described in detail. It should be understood, however, that the description herein of specific example embodiments is not intended to limit the disclosure to the particular forms disclosed herein, but on the contrary, this disclosure is to cover all modifications and equivalents as defined by the appended claims.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE EXEMPLARY EMBODIMENTS

Referring now to the drawings, details of example embodiments of the present invention are schematically illustrated. Like elements in the drawings will be represented by like numbers, and similar elements will be represented by like numbers with a different lower case letter suffix.

Referring to FIG. **1**, depicted is a schematic exploded perspective view of a modular LED device comprising a heat sink, a mounting ring, a LED light engine module with electrical leads, and a locking ring, according to a specific example embodiment of this disclosure. An LED device, generally represented by the numeral **10**, comprises a back heat sink **105**, a mounting ring **102**, an LED module **120**, electrical wiring **106**, and a locking ring **104**. An opening **98** in the mounting ring **102** and an opening **97** in the locking ring **104** allow exit of the electrical wiring **106** when the mounting ring **102** and locking ring **104** are assembled together with the LED module **120** located therebetween. The locking ring **104** holds the LED module **120** in the mounting ring **102** so that the back of the LED module **120** is in thermal communication with the face of the back heat sink **105**. The locking ring **104** allows quick release of the LED module **120** from the mounting ring **102** without requiring special tools or much effort. This is especially important when changing out the LED module **120** in a light fixture mounted in or on a high ceiling while standing on a ladder and the like.

Referring to FIG. **2**, depicted is a schematic perspective view of the LED light engine module with electrical leads as shown in FIG. **1**. The LED module **120** comprises a plurality of light emitting diodes (LEDs) **98** mounted on a substrate **96** having electrical connections (not shown) to the plurality of LEDs **98** and to the electrical wiring **106**. Position/key holes **94** are used in combination with a plurality of position/key pins **95** (FIG. **1**) on the face of the heat sink **105** for preventing a mismatch of the power dissipation requirements of the LED module **120** with the heat sink **105** having an adequate heat dissipating rating, as more fully described hereinafter.

Referring to FIG. **3**, depicted is a schematic elevational view of the LED light engine module with electrical leads as shown in FIGS. **1** and **2**. The LED module **120** is held between the mounting ring **102** and the locking ring **104**. The electrical wiring **106** is attached to the LED substrate **96** with an electrical connector **92**. The connector **92** is electrically connected to the electrical wiring **106** that provides electrical power and control to, and, optionally, parameter monitoring from, the LED module **120**. At least one position pin **95***a* and at least one lumen package key pin **95***b* comprise the plurality of position/key pins **95**.

Referring to FIG. **4**, depicted is a schematic exploded perspective view of a modular LED device comprising a heat sink, a mounting ring, a LED light engine module with integrated electrical contacts, and a locking ring, according to another specific example embodiment of this disclosure. An LED device, generally represented by the numeral **10***a*, comprises a back heat sink **105**, a mounting ring **102***a*, an LED module **120***a*, electrical wiring **106***a*, and a locking ring **104**. The LED module **120***a* has a connector **107** with electrical contacts thereon. The mounting ring **102***a* has a corresponding connector **108** that electrically connects to the connector **107** when the LED device **10***a* is inserted into mounting ring **102***a*. The locking ring **104** holds the LED module **120***a* in the mounting ring **102***a* so that the back of the LED module **120***a* is in thermal communication with the face of the back heat sink **105**. The locking ring **104** allows quick release of the LED module **120***a* from the mounting ring **102***a* without requiring special tools or much effort. This is especially important when changing out the LED module **120***a* in a light fixture mounted in or on a high ceiling while standing on a ladder and the like.

Referring to FIG. **5**, depicted is a schematic perspective view of the LED light engine module with integrated electrical contacts as shown in FIG. **4**. The LED module **120***a* comprises a plurality of light emitting diodes (LEDs) **98** mounted on a substrate **96** having electrical connections (not shown) to the plurality of LEDs **98** and to the connector **107**. Position/key holes **94** are used in combination with a plurality of position/key pins **95** (FIG. **4**) in the heat sink **105** for preventing a mismatch of the power dissipation requirements of the LED module **120***a* with the heat sink **105** having an adequate heat dissipating rating, as more fully described hereinafter.

Referring to FIG. **6**, depicted is a schematic elevational view of the LED light engine module having integrated electrical contacts as shown in FIGS. **4** and **5**. The LED module **120***a* is held between the mounting ring **102***a* and the locking ring **104**. The connector **107** has electrical contacts that provide electrical circuits through the LED substrate **96** to the LEDs **98**. The connector **107** is adapted to electrically connect to a corresponding connector **108** in the mounting ring **102***a*. The connector **108** is electrically connected to electrical wiring **106***a* that provides electrical power and control to, and, optionally, parameter monitoring from, the LED module **120***a*. At least one position pin **95***a* and at least one lumen package key pin **95***b* comprise the plurality of position/key pins **95**.

Referring to FIG. **7**, depicted is a generic schematic exploded elevational view of the modular LED device shown in FIG. **4**. Typically, the back heat sink **105** and mounting ring **102***a* are permanently mounted in the light fixture (not shown), wherein the LED module **120***a* and locking ring **104** are adapted for easy assembly and disassembly from the mounting ring **102***a* without tools or great effort. This feature is extremely important for maintenance and safety purposes.

It is contemplated and within the scope of this disclosure that a thermal interface material, e.g., thermal grease, a thermally conductive compressible material, etc. can be used to improve heat transfer between the face of the back heat sink **105** and the back of the LED module **120**.

Referring to FIG. **8**, depicted is a schematic plan view of a high lumen package light engine module, according to a specific example embodiment of this disclosure. A high lumen package LED module **120** is shown having three (3) position holes **94***a* and one (1) key hole **94***b* located at specific positions in the LED modules **120** and **120***a*. The position hole(s) **94***a* and key hole(s) **94***b* are arranged as a specific number of holes having specific positional relationships. In addition, the inside diameters of the position holes **94***a* and the key holes **94***b* may also be different so as to better distinguish the LED module **120** rating. The key/position holes **94** fit over corresponding key/position pins **95** located on the face of the back heat sink **105**. A purpose of proper mating of the key/position holes **94** and corresponding key/position pins **95** is to prevent attachment of a LED module **120** to a back heat sink **105** having inadequate capabilities needed to dissipate the heat from the LED module **120**.

Referring to FIG. **9**, depicted is a schematic plan view of a medium lumen package light engine module, according to another specific example embodiment of this disclosure. A medium lumen package LED module **120** is shown having three (3) position holes **94***a* and two (2) key holes **94***b* located at specific positions in the LED module **120** and **120***a*. The position hole(s) **94***a* and key hole(s) **94***b* are arranged as a specific number of holes having specific positional relationships. In addition, the inside diameters of the position holes **94***b* and the key holes **94***a* may also be different so as to better distinguish the LED module **120** rating. The key/position holes **94** fit over corresponding key/position pins **95** located on the face of the back heat sink **105**. A purpose of proper mating of the key/position holes **94** and corresponding key/position pins **95** is to prevent attachment of a LED module **120** to a back heat sink **105** having inadequate capabilities needed to dissipate heat from the LED module **120**.

Referring to FIG. **10**, depicted is a schematic plan view of a low lumen package light engine module, according to yet another specific example embodiment of this disclosure. A low lumen package LED module **120** is shown having three (3) position holes **94***a* and three (3) key holes **94***b* located at specific positions in the LED module **120** and **120***a*. The position hole(s) **94***a* and key hole(s) **94***b* are arranged as a specific number of holes having specific positional relationships. In addition, the inside diameters of the position holes **94***a* and the key holes **94***b* may also be different so as to better distinguish the LED module **120** rating. The key/position holes **94** fit over corresponding key/position pins **95** located on the face of the back heat sink **105**. A purpose of proper mating of the key/position holes **94** and corresponding key/position pins **95** is to prevent attachment of a LED module **120** to a back heat sink **105** having inadequate capabilities need to dissipate heat from the LED module **120**.

Referring to FIG. **11**, depicted is a schematic plan view of a socket for the medium lumen package light engine shown in FIG. **9**. The socket comprises the mounting ring **102** attached to the face of the back heat sink **105**, wherein the key pins **95***b* on the face of the back heat sink **105** fit into corresponding key holes **94***b* in the LED module **120**, and, similarly, the position pins **95***a* fit into corresponding position holes **94***a* of a LED module **120**. The key pins **95***b* can provide for downward compatibility using a higher power dissipation back heat sink **105** with a lower power (heat generating) LED module **120**, e.g., there are more key pins **95***b* on the face of a lower power back heat sink **105** than on the face of a higher power dissipation back heat sink **105**. Therefore, from the specific example embodiments of the three different heat dissipation rated LED modules **120** shown in FIG. **8-10**, it can readily be seen that the low or medium lumen light engine LED module **120** will fit into an assembly comprising the mounting ring **102** and high power dissipation back heat sink **105** configured for high lumen modules. Likewise, an assembly comprising the mounting ring **102** and medium power dissipation back heat sink **105** configured for medium lumen modules will readily accept a low lumen LED module **120**.

It is contemplated and within the scope of this disclosure that any arrangements of key/position holes **94** and/or corresponding key/position pins **95** may be used to differentiate LED modules **120** having different power dissipation requirements and to ensure that an appropriate back heat sink **105** is used therewith. The key/position holes **94** and corresponding key/position pins **95** may also be arranged so that a higher heat dissipation back heat sink **105** can be used with lower power dissipation LED modules **120**, and prevent a lower heat dissipation back heat sink **105** from being used with LED modules **120** having heat dissipation requirements greater than what the lower heat dissipation back heat sink **105** can adequately handle.

Referring to FIG. **12**, depicted is a schematic plan view of the light engine module of FIGS. **1-3** showing positional relationships of the position and key holes, according to the specific example embodiments of this disclosure. The position holes **94***a* of the LED module **120** may be equidistantly spaced apart around, e.g., A=120 degrees, but is not limited to that spacing and may be any spacing appropriate for positional implementation of the LED module **120** to the mounting ring **102** and/or back heat sink **105**. The at least one key hole **94***b* is placed between the position holes **94***a* at B degrees from the nearest one of the position holes **94***a*.

Referring to FIG. **13**, depicted is a schematic and plan view of the light engine module of FIGS. **4-6** showing positional relationships of the position and key holes, and electrical connector, according to the specific example embodiments of this disclosure. The position holes **94***a* of the LED module **120***a* may be equidistantly spaced apart around, e.g., A=120 degrees, but is not limited to that spacing and may be any spacing appropriate for positional implementation of the LED module **120***a* to the mounting ring **102***a* and/or back heat sink **105**. The at least one key hole **94***b* is placed between the position holes **94***a* at B degrees from the nearest one of the position holes **94***a*. The connector **107** may be located between two of the position holes **94***a* and have a width of C.

It is contemplated and within the scope of this disclosure that the position/key holes **94** can be a first position/key means having any shape, e.g., round, square, rectangular, oval, etc., can be a notch, a slot, an indentation, a socket, and the like. It is also contemplated and within the scope of this disclosure that the position/key pins **95** can be a second position/key means having any shape, e.g., round, square, rectangular, oval, etc., can be a protrusion, a bump, an extension, a plug, and the like. It is also contemplated and within the scope of this disclosure that the first and second position/key means can be interchangeable related on the face of the back heat sink **105** and the back of the LED module **120**.

Referring to FIG. **14**, depicted is a schematic plan view of the light engine modules shown in FIGS. **1-13** having optical system attachment features, according to specific example embodiments of this disclosure. Shown are three bottom notches (see notches **910**, **915** and **920** shown in FIGS. **24-27**) for mechanically interfacing with a light reflector **115** (described more fully hereinafter) having tabs **905** (see FIG. **24**).

Referring to FIG. **15**, depicted is a schematic perspective view of the locking ring **104** shown in FIGS. **1** and **4**. The opening **97** in the locking ring **104** allows exit of the electrical wiring **106** from the LED module **120** and **120***a*. Optionally, serrations **90** along the circumference of the locking ring **104** can be used to improve gripping during installation of the LED module and locking ring **104**.

Referring to FIG. **16**, depicted is a generic perspective view of the LED devices of FIGS. **1-15** shown fully assembled, according to specific example embodiments of this disclosure. An LED device, generally represented by the numeral **100**, includes a back heat sink **105**, a front heat sink **110**, a reflector **115**, an LED module **120**, and a spring **125**. The back heat sink **105** is coupled to the front heat sink **110**, e.g., using known coupling methods. The back heat sink **105** and the front heat sink **110** are constructed from heat conductive materials known to those having ordinary skill in the art of heat conduction, e.g., metals such as aluminum, copper, copper-alloy; heat pipes in the heat sink, beryllium oxide, etc., the metals preferably being black anodized and the like. While both the back heat sink **105** and the front heat sink **110** are presented in the exemplary embodiments as having a circular cross section, other shapes are contemplated herein, including, but not limited to, square, rectangular, triangular, or other geometric and non-geometric shapes are within the capability, scope and spirit of this disclosure.

In one exemplary embodiment, both the back heat sink **105** and the front heat sink **110** include a plurality of fins with air gaps therebetween to promote convective cooling. Optionally, holes or openings between the heat sink fins may further encourage convective airflow through the air gaps and over the plurality of fins. The LED module **120** is releasably coupled to the back heat sink **105** as will be discussed in more detail with reference to FIG. **21** below. In one exemplary embodiment, the LED module **120** is an at least two-piece module with one or more LEDs and power components surrounded along the bottom and sides by an enclosure. In one exemplary embodiment, the enclosure is constructed from aluminum. In the exemplary embodiment shown in FIGS. **16-25**, the LED module **120** has a circular cross section. However, the circular shape is exemplary only and is not intended to be limiting. The LED module **120** is capable of being constructed in different geometric and non-geometric shapes, including, but not limited to, square, rectangular, triangular, etc.

The reflector **115** is releasably and rotatably coupled to the LED module **120** as will be described in more detail with reference to FIGS. **23-27** hereinbelow. The reflector **115** can be constructed from metal, molded glass or plastic material and preferably may be constructed from spun aluminum. The reflector **115** helps to direct the light emitted from the LEDs in the LED module **120**. In one exemplary embodiment, the reflector **115** is a conical or parabolic reflector. In this exemplary embodiment, the outer diameter of the reflector **115** is less than or substantially equal to the inner diameter of the fins of the front heat sink **110**. Preferably, the outer diameter of the reflector **115** is substantially equal to the inner diameter of the fins of the front heat sink **110** to promote the conduction of heat from the reflector **115** to the fins.

The spring **125** is releasably coupled to the LED module **120**. The exemplary spring **125** shown is a flat or leaf spring, however other types of springs, including, but not limited to coiled springs can be used and are within the scope of the invention. The spring **125** provides a biasing force against the reflector **115** in the direction of the larger opening of the reflector **115**.

Referring to FIG. **17**, depicted is an exploded elevational view of the LED device shown in FIG. **16**, according to a specific example embodiment of this disclosure. The exploded view of the LED device **100** shows a back heat sink **105** which includes a flat or substantially flat side or interface **205** for receiving a flat or substantially flat back side or interface **210** of the LED module **120**. The interfaces **205** and **210** are adapted to mate in close thermal communication so as to promote efficient conduction of heat away from the back side **210** of the LED module **120** and to the back heat sink **105**, wherein this heat is subsequently dissipated through the back heat sink **105**. The LED module **120** has sides **215** and **220** that are tapered from the front of the LED module (side having the LEDs and light projected therefrom) to the back of the LED module **120** (side in physical and thermal contact with the back heat sink **105**), such that the diameter of the back of the LED module **120** is greater than the diameter of the front of the LED module **120**. The taper of the sides **215** and **220** has a range of between about one and eighty-nine degrees from vertical and is preferably between about five and thirty degrees. The front heat sink **110** includes a cavity **235** positioned along the back center of the front heat sink **110**. The cavity **235** is bounded by sides **225** and **230** inside of the front heat sink **110**. In one exemplary embodiment, the sides **225** and **230** are tapered, wherein the inner diameter of the cavity **235** at the back of the heat sink **110** is greater than the inner diameter of the cavity **235** toward the front of the heat sink **110**. In one exemplary embodiment, the dimensions of the cavity **235** are equal to or substantially equal to the dimensions of the LED module **120**, and the dimensions and angle of taper for the sides **225** and **230** of the front heat sink **110** equals or is substantially equal to the dimensions and angle of taper for the sides **215** and **220** of the LED module **120**. In the embodiment shown in FIG. **17**, the LED module **120** is releasably coupled to the back heat sink **105**. Then the front heat sink **110** is slidably positioned over the LED module **120** and coupled to the back heat sink **105**, thereby securely holding the LED module **120** in a substantially centered position between the front heat sink **110** and the back heat sink **105**. The substantial similarity in the inner dimensions of the cavity **235** and the outer dimensions of the LED module **120** ensure proper positioning of the front heat sink **110** and improved conduction of heat from the sides and front of the LED module **120** to the front heat sink **110**.

Referring to FIG. **18**, depicted is an exploded elevational view of the LED device shown in FIG. **16**, according to another specific example embodiment of this disclosure. The exploded view of the LED device **100***a* shows the back heat sink **105** which includes a flat or substantially flat side or interface **205** for receiving a flat or substantially flat back side or interface **210** of the LED module **120***a*. The interfaces **205** and **210** are adapted to mate in close thermal communication so as to promote efficient conduction of heat away from the back side **210** of the LED module **120** and to the back heat sink **105**, wherein this heat is subsequently dissipated through the heat sink **105**. The LED module **120***a* has sides **305** and **310** that are tapered from the front of the LED module (side having the LEDs and light projected therefrom) to the back of the LED module **120** (side in physical and thermal contact with the back heat sink **105**), such that the diameter of the front of the LED module **120***a* is greater than the diameter of the back of the LED module **120***a*. The taper of the sides **305** and **310** has a range of between one and eighty-nine degrees and is preferably between five and thirty degrees. The front heat sink **110***a* includes a cavity **325** positioned along the back center of the front heat sink **110***a*. The cavity **325** is bounded by sides **315** and **320** inside of the front heat sink **110***a*. In one exemplary embodiment, the sides **315** and **320** are tapered, wherein the inner diameter of the cavity **325** at the back of the heat sink **110** is less than at the inner diameter of the cavity **325** toward the front of the heat sink **110***a*. In one exemplary embodiment, the dimensions of the cavity **325** are equal to or substantially equal to the dimensions of the LED module **120***a* and the dimensions and angle of taper for the sides **315** and **320** of the front heat sink **110***a* equals or is substantially equal to the dimensions and angle of taper for the sides **305** and **310** of the LED module **120***a*. In the embodiment shown in FIG. **18**, the front heat sink **110***a* is releasably coupled to the back heat sink **105**. Then, the LED module **120***a* is slidably inserted through the front of the front heat sink **110***a* and into the cavity **325**. The LED module **120***a* is then releasably coupled to the back heat sink **105**. The similarity in dimensions of the cavity **235** and the LED module **120***a* ensure proper positioning of the LED module **120***a* and the front heat sink **110***a* and improves conduction of heat from the sides and front of the LED module **120***a* to the front heat sink **110***a*.

Referring to FIG. **19**, depicted is an exploded elevational view of the LED device shown in FIG. **16**, according to yet another specific example embodiment of this disclosure. The exploded view **100***b* shows the back heat sink **105** which includes a flat or substantially flat side or interface **205** for receiving a flat or substantially back side or interface **210** of the LED module **120***b*. The interfaces **205** and **210** are adapted to mate in close thermal communication so as to promote efficient conduction of heat away from the back side **210** of the LED module **120***b* and to the back heat sink **105**, wherein this heat is subsequently dissipated through the heat sink **105**. The sides of the LED module **120***b* have two different tapers. The first side taper **415** and **420** begins at or substantially near the back of the LED module **120***b* and is tapered from back to front of the LED module **120***b*, such that the diameter of the back of the LED module **120***b* is less than the diameter as you move towards the front of the LED module **120***b*. The second side taper **425** and **430** begins at or substantially near the front side of the LED module **120***b* and is tapered from the front toward the back of the LED module **120***b*, such that the diameter at the front of the LED module **120***b* is less than the diameter as you move towards the back of the LED module **120***b*. The tapers can converge at any point along the side of the LED module **120***b*. Each of the tapers **415**, **420**, **425** and **430** has a range of between one and eighty-nine degrees from vertical and is preferably between five and thirty degrees.

The LED device **100***b* further comprises an interposing heat sink **405** located between the back heat sink **105** and a front heat sink **410**. The interposing heat sink **405** has a cavity **460** that is substantially similar in shape to the back portion of the front heat sink **110***a* shown in FIG. **18**. The interposing heat sink **405** has an outer size and dimension substantially matching that of the front heat sink **410** and similarly includes fins extending outward to promote heat transfer from the LED module **120***a*. The interposing heat sink **405** includes the cavity **460** positioned along the center of the interposing heat sink **405** to create a passage therethrough. The cavity **460** is bounded on the side by sides **435** and **440** of the interposing heat sink **405**. In one exemplary embodiment, the sides **435** and **440** are tapered from front to back such that the inner diameter of the cavity **460** at the front is greater than at the back. In one exemplary embodiment, the dimensions of the cavity **460** are equal to or substantially equal to the dimensions of the LED module **120***b* up to the end of the first taper **415** and **420** and the dimensions and angle of taper for the sides **435** and **440** of the interposing heat sink **405** equals or is substantially equal to the dimensions and angle of the first taper **415** and **420** for the side of the LED module **120***b*. In the embodiment shown in FIG. **19**, the interposing heat sink **405** is releasably coupled to the back heat sink **105**. Then, the LED module **120***b* is slidably inserted through the front of the interposing heat sink **405** and into the cavity **460**. The LED module **120***b* is then releasably coupled to the back heat sink **105**. The similarity in dimensions of the cavity **460** and the LED module **120***b* ensure proper positioning of the LED module **120***b* and the interposing heat sink **405**.

The front heat sink **410** includes a cavity **455** positioned along the back center of the front heat sink **410**. The cavity **455** is bounded by sides **445** and **450** of the front heat sink **410**. In one exemplary embodiment, the sides **445** and **450** are tapered from back to front such that the inner diameter of the cavity **455** at the back is greater than at the front of the front heat sink **410**. In one exemplary embodiment, the dimensions of the cavity **455** are equal to or substantially equal to the dimensions of the LED module **120***b* from the second taper **425**, **430** up to the front of the LED module **120***b* and the dimensions and angle of taper for the sides **445**, **450** of the front heat sink **410** equals or is substantially equal to the dimensions and angle of the second taper **425**, **430** for the sides of the LED module **120***b*. In the embodiment of FIG. **4**, the front heat sink **410** is slidably positioned over the LED module **120***b* and is coupled to the interposing heat sink **405** and/or the back heat sink **105**. The similarity in dimensions of the cavity **455** and the top portion of the LED module **120***b* ensure proper positioning of the front heat sink **410** and improved conduction of heat from the sides and front of the LED module **120***b* to the interposing heat sink **405** and the front heat sink **410**. A spring assembly **470** is used as an aid in securing the reflector **115** to the front heat sink **410**, as more fully described hereinafter.

Referring to FIG. **20**, depicted is an exploded elevational view of the LED device shown in FIG. **16**, according to still another specific example embodiment of this disclosure. The exploded view of the back heat sink **505** is substantially similar to the back heat sink **105** of FIGS. **16-19** except as more fully disclosed hereinafter. The back heat sink **505** includes a flat or substantially flat side or interface **535** within a cavity **515** for receiving a flat or substantially flat back side or interface **210** of the LED module **120***c*. The flat interfaces **535** and **210** are in substantial thermal communication so as to promote efficient conduction of heat away from the back side **210** of the LED module **120***c* to the back heat sink **505**. The side **305**, **310** of the LED module **120***c* is tapered from top to bottom, such that the diameter of the top of the LED module **120***c* is greater than the diameter of the bottom of the LED module **120***c*. The taper of the side has a range of between one and eighty-nine degrees from vertical and is preferably between five and thirty degrees.

The back heat sink **505** includes a cavity **515** positioned along the front center of the back heat sink **505**. The cavity **515** is bounded on the side by sides **520** and **525** of the back heat sink **505**. In one exemplary embodiment, the sides **520** and **525** are tapered from the front towards the back of the back heat sink **505** such that the inner diameter of the cavity

515 at the front is greater than toward the back thereof. In one exemplary embodiment, the dimensions of the cavity 515 are equal to or substantially equal to the dimensions of the LED module 120*c* and the dimensions and angle of taper for the sides 520 and 525 of the back heat sink 505 equals or is substantially equal to the dimensions and angle of taper for the sides 305 and 310 of the LED module 120*c*.

In the embodiment shown in FIG. 20, thermally conductive material 510 can optionally be inserted into the cavity 515 along the flat interface at the bottom of the cavity 515 (toward the back of the heat sink 505). In one exemplary embodiment, the thermally conductive material 510 is a thin flat thermally conductive material having a shape substantially similar to the shape of the back of the cavity 515. The thermally conductive material 510 acts as a cushion between the LED module 120*c* and the back heat sink 505 and maintains a consistent gap between the LED module 120*c* and the back heat sink 505. The thermally conductive material 510 also helps to transfer heat between the flat interface 210 of the LED module 120*c* and the back of the cavity 515. The LED module 120*c* is slidably inserted into the cavity 515, and, optionally, with the thermally conductive material 510 placed therebetween. The LED module 120*c* is releasably coupled to the back heat sink 505. Then, the front heat sink 530 is releasably coupled to the back heat sink 505. The similarity in dimensions of the cavity 515 and the LED module 120*c* ensures proper positioning of the LED module 120*c* into the back heat sink 505 and improves conduction of heat from the side and back of the LED module 120*c* to the back heat sink 505. The

It is contemplated and within the scope of this disclosure that any of the specific example embodiments of the LED devices described herein may benefit from using the thermally conductive material 510 between the LED module and the back heat sink for increasing thermal conductivity therebetween.

Referring to FIG. 21, depicted is a perspective view of a portion of the LED device shown in FIG. 20. In situations involving significant heat transmission, the LED device further includes elastic or spring washers 610 to balance the expansion and contraction of materials making up the heat sinks 505 and 530, and to maintain adequate contact between the back heat sink 505 and the LED module 120*c*. The spring washers 610 are placed between fasteners 605 and the LED module 120*c*. In one exemplary embodiment, the fastener 605 is a screw, however, other fastening devices known to those of ordinary skill in the art can be used in place of each of the screws shown in FIG. 21. In the exemplary embodiment, three mounting points are shown, however, a number of mounting points greater or lesser than three can be used based on the size, use, and design criteria for the LED device 100*c*. Further, while the concept of the elastic washer is shown and described in reference to the device 100*c* of FIG. 20, the use of elastic washers 610 can also be incorporated into the mounting of the LED module 120 in the devices shown in FIGS. 17-19.

Referring to FIGS. 22A-27, depicted are multiple views of the reflector attachment mechanism and assembly for use with the LED devices shown in FIGS. 16-21. Referring now to FIGS. 22A-27, the exemplary reflector attachment assembly includes the back heat sink 105, the reflector 115, the springs 705 and the LED module 120. As best seen in FIG. 24, the reflector 115 includes one or more tabs 905 extending out orthogonally or substantially orthogonally from the perimeter of the back (rear) end of the reflector 115. In one exemplary embodiment, the reflector 115 has three tabs 905, however, fewer or greater numbers of tabs 905 can be used based on design preferences and use of the LED device 100.

Each of the tabs 905 is positioned to match up with corresponding vertical notches 910 cut out from the inner diameter wall of the LED module 120. Each vertical notch 910 extends down into the LED module 120 a predetermined amount. A horizontal notch 915 in the LED module 120 intersects the vertical notch 910 and extends orthogonally or substantially orthogonally along the perimeter of the inner wall of the LED module 120. A second vertical notch 920 in the LED module 120 intersects the horizontal notch 915 along its second end and extends orthogonally or substantially orthogonally back up toward the front of the LED module 120 without extending to and through the front of the LED module 120 so that tabs 905 are locked therein.

As shown in FIGS. 25-27, the tabs 905 are first aligned with the vertical notches 910 and then the tabs 905 are moved towards the back of the LED module 120 by providing a downward force on the reflector 115. Once each tab 905 reaches the bottom of the first vertical notch 910, the tab 905 is able to access the horizontal notch 915 by rotating the reflector 115. In the exemplary embodiment of FIG. 26, the reflector 115 is shown rotating in the clockwise direction, however, counterclockwise setups are within the scope and spirit of this invention. The reflector 115 is rotated clockwise and the tab 905 slides through the horizontal notch 915. Once the tab 905 reaches the end of the horizontal notch 915, the tab 905 is aligned with the second vertical notch 920. Biasing force from the springs 705 push the reflector 115 and the tabs 905 up so that the tabs 905 move up and into the second vertical notches 920, thereby locking the reflector 115 in place (FIG. 27). Since reflectors made from different materials typically have different manufacturing tolerances with which the tabs 905 can be made, these different tab sizes are compensated for by the use of the springs 705 to force the tabs 905 into the second notches 920. In order to remove the reflector 115 a user would have to apply a force downward on the reflector 115 towards the back heat sink 105 before turning the reflector counterclockwise, thereby moving the tabs 905 through the horizontal notches 920 until reaching the vertical notches 910 and removing the reflector 115 by moving the tabs 905 up through the vertical notches 910. The springs 705 help center the reflector 115 with the LED module 120.

It is contemplated and within the scope of this disclosure that the reflector 115 can attached to the locking ring 104 and both become an integral assembly (not shown) wherein when the reflector 115 is rotated the locking ring 104 engages the mounting ring 102, thereby holding the LED module 120 to the back heat sink 105.

It is contemplated and within the scope of this disclosure that the aforementioned LED devices 120 can be used for a wide range of lighting devices and applications, e.g., recessed cans, track lighting spots and floods, surface mounted fixtures, flush mounted fixtures for drop-in ceilings, cove lighting, under-counter lighting, indirect lighting, street lights, office building interior and exterior illumination, outdoor billboards, parking lot and garage illumination, etc.

Although specific example embodiments of the invention have been described above in detail, the description is merely for purposes of illustration. It should be appreciated, therefore, that many aspects of the invention were described above by way of example only and are not intended as required or essential elements of the invention unless explicitly stated otherwise. Various modifications of, and equivalent steps corresponding to, the disclosed aspects of the exemplary embodiments, in addition to those described above, can be made by a person of ordinary skill in the art, having the benefit of this disclosure, without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention defined in the following claims, the scope of which is to be accorded the broadest interpretation so as to encompass such modifications and equivalent structures.

I claim:

1. A system for illumination, comprising:
a light emitting diode (LED) module comprising:
a back side, wherein the back side is thermally conductive;
a substrate having a plurality of light emitting diodes (LEDs); and
at least one first key element; and
a back heat sink having a first thermal dissipation capacity, the back heat sink comprising:
a face, wherein the face is thermally conductive; and
at least one second key element, wherein the at least one first key element aligns with the at least one second key element, wherein the first thermal dissipation capacity of the back heat sink meets or exceeds the heat dissipation requirement of the LED module, wherein the at least one first key element is configured to align with at least one third key element of a second back heat sink having a second thermal dissipation capacity that meets or exceeds the heat dissipation requirement of the LED module.

2. The system according to claim 1, wherein each of the at least one first key element is aligned and interlocked with a corresponding one of the at least one second key element, wherein alignment and interlocking of each of the at least one first key element with the corresponding one of the at least one second key element indicates that the first thermal dissipation capacity of the back heat sink is sufficient to dissipate heat generated by the LED module.

3. The system according to claim 1, further comprising:
a mounting ring positioned along the back heat sink; and
a locking ring, wherein the locking ring secures the LED module within the mounting ring, wherein the LED module is positioned between a portion of the locking ring and the face of the back heat sink, and wherein the back side of the LED module and the face of the back heat sink are in thermal communication.

4. The system according to claim 3, wherein the LED module comprises a first electrical connector, wherein the mounting ring comprises a second electrical connector, wherein when the LED module is positioned in the mounting ring, the first electrical connector electrically connects to the second electrical connector.

5. The system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one first key element includes at least one hole in the LED module and wherein the at least one second key element includes at least one pin extending out from the face of the back heat sink.

6. The system according to claim 5, wherein a total number of the at least one second key element is fewer than a total number of the at least one first key element.

7. The system according to claim 5, wherein a total number of the at least one second key element equals a total number of the at least one first key element.

8. The system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one second key element of the back heat sink is designed for alignment and interlocking with at least one key element of a second LED module having a second heat dissipation requirement that is less than the heat dissipation requirement of the LED module.

9. The system according to claim 8, wherein the at least one second key element of the back heat sink is designed for alignment and interlocking with at least one key element of a third LED module having a third heat dissipation requirement that is more than the heat dissipation requirement of the LED module but less than the thermal dissipation capacity of the back heat sink.

10. The system according to claim 8, wherein the at least one second key element of the back heat sink is designed to be misaligned with at least one key element of a third LED module having a third heat dissipation requirement that exceeds the thermal dissipation capacity of the back heat sink.

11. An apparatus for illumination, comprising:
a light emitting diode (LED) module, the LED module comprising:
a back side, wherein the back side is thermally conductive;
a substrate having a plurality of light emitting diodes (LEDs) thereon; and
at least one first key element;
a back heat sink having heat dissipation properties and comprising:
a face, wherein the face is thermally conductive; and
at least one second key element, wherein the at least one second key element is configured to align with the at least one first key element if the back heat sink has sufficient thermal dissipation capacity for removal of heat from the back side of the LED module and wherein the at least one second key element is configured to misalign with the at least one first key element if the back heat sink has insufficient thermal dissipation capacity for removal of the heat from the thermally conductive back side of the LED module.

12. The apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising:
a mounting ring positioned along the back heat sink; and
a locking ring, wherein the locking ring secures the LED module within the mounting ring, wherein the LED module is located between a portion of the locking ring and the face of the back heat sink, and wherein the back side of the LED module and the face of the back heat sink are in thermal communication.

13. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the LED module comprises a first electrical connector, wherein the mounting ring comprises a second electrical connector, wherein when the LED module is positioned in the mounting ring, the first electrical connector electrically connects to the second electrical connector.

14. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the at least one first key element includes at least one hole in the LED module and wherein the at least one second key element includes at least one pin extending out from the face of the back heat sink.

15. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the at least one first key element includes at least one notch in the LED module and wherein the at least one second key element include at least one tab extending out from the face of the back heat sink.

16. The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the at least one notch is a narrow notch and wherein the at least one tab is sized to fit into the at least one notch.

17. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the at least one first key element includes at least one notch in the LED module, wherein the at least one second key element includes at least one tab extending from an inner ring of a locking ring, and wherein the locking ring secures the LED module within a mounting ring positioned along the back heat sink.

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